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'Outdated' comment draws ire

SORRY A Tory member of the New Brunswick legislature has apologized for writing on his Facebook page that women should make more babies.

In responding to the provincial budget Tuesday, Carl Urquhart posted on Facebook: "Another Liberal budget ... Another $1 billion on the debt by March ... Girls we need more babies or we will never be able to support our future."

Liberal member Joan MacAlpine-Stiles told the legislature yesterday she found the comment offensive. "To suggest to New Brunswick's young women that their only role in society and their only contribution to the New Brunswick economy is to have babies is demeaning and outdated thinking," she said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

News on the Move

What's this barcode for?
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Go Green

Don't forget to pick up tomorrow's special Metro GO GREEN issue, covering everything you need to know about the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen and everything eco!

On the web

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NFL **T.O. lands in T.O.**

DARREN CALABRESE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Buffalo Bills' Terrell Owens laughs yesterday while speaking to journalists at the Rogers Centre. Owens and the Bills host the New York Jets in an NFL regular-season game tonight at the Rogers Centre. More coverage, page 29.

Dad is doubtful

Tip leads cops to Alberta for missing Mariam Makhniashvili

The father of a Toronto teen missing since the beginning of September says he doesn't believe tips to police that his daughter was spotted in southern Alberta.

Okotoks RCMP received word from Toronto police last month that Mariam Makhniashvili may have been in the community just south of Calgary in late October, said Sgt. Ian Shardlow.

He said investigators passed on a tip that the 18-year-old woman possibly tried to sell dream catchers and other crafts in Okotoks and could still be in the area.

But her father said from his Toronto home that he didn't believe the tips were true. "Unfortunately, I think it is almost impossible," said Vakhtang Makhniashvili. "If she were able to sell something on the street, she would be able to call us or email us, and why wouldn't she?"

Mariam Makhniashvili

Mariam was last seen arriving at school with her younger brother on Sept. 14. Toronto police say thousands of interviews have failed to generate any solid leads about what happened to her.

Shardlow said there is no video surveillance to back up the possibility that she was in Alberta. Two business owners confirmed a woman resembling her picture had tried to sell them crafts, he said, but they added they couldn't be certain it was the same person.

Toronto police also emphasized there is little to link the missing teenager to Alberta.

Her father still believes his daughter was kidnapped. Her family regularly checks her email and Facebook accounts and has seen no activity to suggest she's free.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Tiger's heart full of regret

With a public apology and another appeal for privacy, Tiger Woods acknowledged yesterday that he let his family down with unspecified "transgressions" that he regrets with "all of my heart."

Tiger Woods

"I have not been true to my values and the behaviour my family deserves," Woods said on his website following a magazine report of an alleged affair.

It was his longest statement since a middle-of-the-night car crash outside his Florida home last week set off the greatest media scrutiny of Woods' career and his five-year-old marriage to former model Elin Nordegren. He did not go into detail and said he would deal with his "personal failings" with his family.

"Those feelings should be shared by us alone," he said.

On Tuesday, Us Weekly reported that a Los Angeles cocktail waitress, Jaimee Grubbs, claims she had a 31-month affair with the world's No. 1 golfer.

"I will strive to be a better person and the husband and father that my family deserves," Woods said on his website.

"For all of those who have supported me over the years, I offer my profound apology."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

EDITORIAL CARTOON, PAGE 24
MORE COVERAGE, PAGE 28

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Local

Mayor to attend Jewish anniversary

Toronto Mayor David Miller, left, will be on hand for the unveiling of a plaque honouring the 90th anniversary of Toronto's Jewish Community Centres today from 7:45-9:15 am at the Miles Nadal Jewish Community Centre (750 Spadina Ave. at Bloor).

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Tomorrow's Metro

Urban Compass

April Lindgren brings Metro readers the issues that are affecting Torontonians

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WHAT'S ONLINE TODAY

Video Fresh troops sent to Afghanistan under new U.S. strategy set to march under Canadian command in Kandahar at **metronews.ca/canada**

Video Canadian Tire's new one-dollar coin earns tepid reviews from some shoppers at **metronews.ca/canada**

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Tories HST climbdown

Question period was derailed, two maverick Opposition politicians — one in a kilt — camped out in the Ontario legislature, and the Speaker was made to give an uncomfortable explanation of just where the men were relieving themselves.

The sit-in protest of Ontario's plan to harmonize sales taxes with Ottawa ended yesterday after less than two days of procedural chaos at the legislature.

The Opposition is claiming victory, but it's looking more like a defeat.

The Tories, who insisted they would hold out for broader public hearings on the controversial tax change, didn't get what they said they wanted. They also passed up the chance for a second day of public hearings in Toronto in order to prolong their protest.

And with two members of the shadow cabinet banished for the remainder of the session, the 25-member Opposition also has two less votes in the legislature, which may last until after the next election in 2011.

MARIA BABBAGE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ontario Progressive Conservatives Bill Murdoch, left, and Randy Hillier speak to the media yesterday outside the provincial legislature. The protest over the HST by the two Progressive Conservatives ended after less than two days of procedural chaos at the legislature.

After negotiations with the Tories and New Democrats yesterday, the Liberal government announced it would have about six hours of public hearings today, starting at 8 a.m. until 10:15 a.m. and again from 2 p.m. until 6 p.m., and hold another half-day session Monday from 8 a.m. until 1 p.m.

That deal came about after Speaker Steve Peters ruled today's scheduled public hearing on the government bill that will merge the eight per cent provincial sales tax with the federal GST could start at one minute after midnight.

Bill Murdoch and Randy Hillier, who emerged from the main chamber to a throng of cameras and reporters, admitted they can't force the Liberal government to hold public hearings on the merging of the taxes next July.

But the two insisted their protest wasn't in vain because they helped people realize the provincial Conservatives oppose the HST.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Long-standing dispute with SPCA cause of humane society charges, lawyer says

The "sensational" raid of the Toronto Humane Society amid allegations of animal cruelty are the result of a long-standing disagreement between the agency and the OSPCA, a lawyer defending several board members said yesterday.

Accusations against the shelter must take that acrimonious history into account, defence lawyer Frank Addario told a news conference.

"It would be impossible to follow the animal welfare world in Ontario and not know that there's been a long history of disagreement between the OSPCA and the Toronto Humane Society," he said.

Addario has been hired to represent several board members charged with provincial counts of animal cruelty, including new president Bob Hambley, after the animal shelter was raided last Thursday.

None of the allegations have been proven in court.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

'House of horrors'

- The OSPCA has described the Toronto shelter as a "house of horrors," and offered tours to the media during an ongoing investigation, displaying a mummified cat they said they found on the premises. Investigators also said they found animals in such poor health that seven had to be put down.

Restaurant owners testify at inspector's extortion trial

COURT Yanhui Lu says she didn't believe Kerry Wong was a real health inspector.

A real inspector wouldn't suggest paying $1,400 to make a $2,500 food safety ticket go away at the bar she and her husband owned on Weston Road, she said.

> **"He didn't have to extort this little money."** Yanhui Lu

"A real health inspector is a good job. He didn't have to extort this little money," she testified yesterday through a Mandarin interpreter.

Wong, 44, is charged with two counts of extortion for allegedly trying to get $1,400 from Lu and her husband, Hong Hai Kang, on July 25, 2007.

Lu said her husband told her the inspector had come around and found some problems, then issued them a $2,500 ticket and promised to come back to re-inspect.

The trial continues today.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Mother asks for help in son's homicide case

Toronto police have released a YouTube video featuring the mother of homicide victim Keegan Allen pleading with the public for information in her son's case. Allen was shot Oct. 8, 2007, while attending a talent competition at the Hungarian House Cultural Centre. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Province falling behind in poverty plan: Advocate

Ontario is promising to stick by its poverty-reduction targets even though advocates say the province risks falling behind just one year into its plan.

"Given the current economic situation ... there is every indication the government will miss its poverty reduction target unless it re-doubles its efforts."
Greg deGroot-Magetti, 25 in 5 Network

"Given the current economic situation, with job losses mounting and food banks seeing more and more people, there is every indication the government will miss its poverty reduction target unless it re-doubles its efforts," said Greg deGroot-Magetti of the 25 in 5 Network for Poverty Reduction.

In a report released yesterday, the group said the government had taken some positive steps toward helping the poor, including moves to accelerate the Ontario Child Benefit, invest in social housing and move ahead with full-day kindergarten for four- and five-year-olds.

But the group said the province will miss its poverty reduction targets without more aggressive and immediate action.

Despite the criticism, Premier Dalton McGuinty said he was proud of the progress made one year after promising to reduce child poverty 25 per cent by 2013.

"We've always known that attacking poverty and ultimately eliminating poverty are pretty lofty objectives, not easily attainable," McGuinty said.

"But I think that we've got to start by building on the bedrock of realistic strategy, which is what we have in place for the first time in Ontario."

Minister of Children and Youth Services Laurel Broten said she was committed to meeting the 2013 target, adding the government had taken some good steps in the first year of a multi-year plan.

"We are no doubt within very challenging times in the province, and the commitments that we are making (like) putting more money in the hands of family with respect to OCB makes a difference for Ontarians," she said.

The government has also set up an advisory committee to review its social assistance program and hopes to have some changes ready in time for the 2010 budget.

The reports come a day after the Ontario Association of Food Banks said a record number of people were turning to food banks, up 19 per cent since last year.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Festival **Holiday reflection**

JOHN R. KENNEDY/FOR METRO TORONTO

City Hall is reflected in the tuba of Sean Vanderheyden, 17, at the 18th annual Holiday Tuba Festival and Choir Sing-a-Long yesterday at Nathan Phillips Square. Organized by the Coalition for Music Education in Canada, the gathering showcases the talents of both young amateurs and adult professionals.

More privacy on Facebook

INTERNET The founder of the popular social networking website Facebook says changes are coming to give users more control over their online privacy.

Mark Zuckerberg posted an open letter to the profile pages of Facebook users, which now number more than 350 million, hinting about new privacy tools.

Users will be able to control which of their friends will see newly posted content, such as photos and videos.

Zuckerberg says many users asked for the feature, which has been in limited public testing since July.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Warning

- The Medical Defence Union, a British organization that advises doctors on avoiding malpractice cases, is warning them not to respond to messages from patients on social networking sites such as Facebook. They say the rise in popularity of networking sites is blurring the boundaries between doctors and patients.

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Teens arrested after baby's body found
Provincial police say two teens have been charged in connection with the discovery of a baby's body in Langton, in southwestern Ontario. Acting on a tip, police found the body Nov. 4. THE CANADIAN PRESS

News in brief

MUSIC Nelly Furtado and Toronto hip-hop artist k-os are among a star-studded group who have been announced as performers at a celebration of late Jacksoul singer Haydain Neale. Keshia Chante, Divine Brown, Luke McMaster and Justin Nozuka will also perform at the concert, to be held Monday at the Phoenix Concert Theatre. Neale died of lung cancer on Nov. 22. He fronted Jacksoul, a Juno Award-winning soul group best known for hits including "Can't Stop" and "Still Believe in Love."
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Bloor test ruled a success

TTC says improved passenger flow helping more trains move through busy station

A TTC experiment in crowd control at the system's busiest subway station is already being deemed a success: It has helped get more trains through and moved more people in the morning rush.

Transit officials will decide today whether to continue a two-week pilot at Bloor Station, used by nearly 200,000 riders daily.

Although many riders have looked askance at the makeshift barriers and number of staff required, Rick Cornacchia, general manager of operations, plans to recommend continuing.

Temporary barriers were placed on the southbound platform to separate passengers getting on and off the train and move people waiting to board farther south, so they're not bunched up at one end near the stairs where riders come off the Bloor-Danforth train. Extra staff stationed at the doors keep riders from rushing the doors, so trains can leave sooner.

"Passenger flow is smoother. It does improve the dwell time (the time the trains stay on the platform) at Bloor southbound," Cornacchia said.
TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Early results

- The final numbers aren't in yet, but 29 trains moved per hour through Bloor during the morning rush yesterday, about three more than the average, and the number of TTC staff required to manage the crowd has shrunk from 23 to 13, said Collie Greenwood, superintendent of rail transportation.

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Maple Leafs **Logo touched up**

DAVID COOPER/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Sidewalk artist Victor Fraser, working for MLSE, touches up the permanent Toronto Maple Leafs logo on the sidewalk outside of the Air Canada Centre yesterday afternoon.

Men accused of murder back in custody on other charges

CRIME Two men who walked free from a high-profile murder case in February are back in jail.

Owen Anthony Smith, 36, faces armed robbery and forcible confinement charges in connection with a holdup at Yorkville's Gabbana Boutique.

Previously, he was accused of being the shooter caught on security video nearly two years ago in Lawrence Heights, coolly firing at six young men of Somali descent standing off-camera in a doorway.

Wendell Damian Cuff, 26, accused of being the man in the video running from the snow-covered yard after the shootings, now faces drug-trafficking charges in Hamilton.

All six men targeted in the shooting were wounded and one died — Abdikarim Ahmed Abdikarim, 18. At the preliminary hearing, the survivors refused to take the witness stand, leading the Crown to suspend first-degree murder charges against both men.

Family members and Somali community leaders expressed dismay that the video alone was not considered of sufficient quality to identify the men without corroborative testimony.

The Crown has one year to reactivate the charges.
TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Scam survey reveals top bait

A year-end study suggests spammers used the economy, swine flu, the death of Michael Jackson and hype over Twitter to lure victims into scams. Symantec, a maker of computer security software, says it analyzed more than 40 trillion spam messages in the last 12 months. That's roughly 5,000 for every person in the world. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Another fee on your flight

Air Canada to charge for second bag

Some Air Canada passengers will once again have to dig a little deeper after the airline announced plans to charge for second checked bags on U.S. transborder and transatlantic flights as part of its effort to become profitable.

Canada's largest airline said customers purchasing economy class tickets — Tango, Tango Plus and Latitude fares — will continue to be able to check one bag for free in addition to carry-on luggage.

But beginning Jan 19, a second checked bag will cost $30 on U.S. transborder flights and $50 on flights to and from Europe and Israel.

The charge will apply to flights to Hawaii, but not to Puerto Rico.

"This change in baggage policy to match our U.S. and European competitors is an important step as we work toward sustained profitability," Ben Smith, Air Canada's executive vice-president and chief commercial officer, said in a news release.

"In this weak economy, it is more critical than ever to continue reviewing all our activities on a regular basis and making adjustments as necessary to remain competitive with our industry peers."

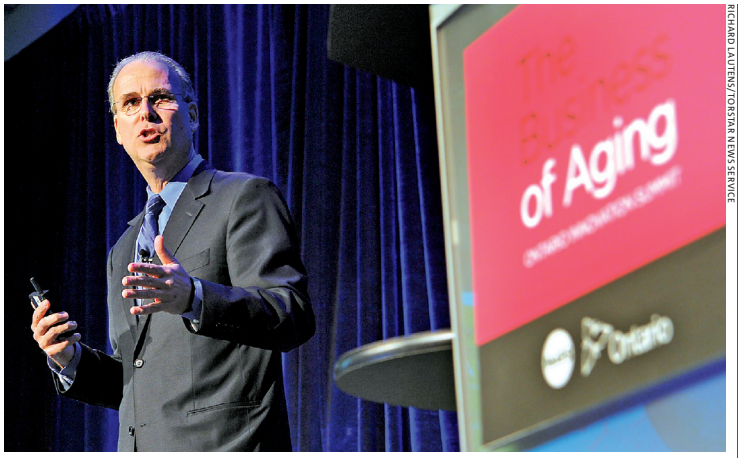
Air Canada said the new baggage charge matches the prevailing checked bag policy of international carriers on U.S. transborder and transatlantic routes.

But WestJet and Porter said they have no plans to begin charging for bags on any of their flights.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

U.S. fees

- The largest U.S. legacy carriers charge $20 to $25 for first checked bags, and up to $35 for second bags.



RICHARD LAUTENS/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

William Reichman, CEO of the Baycrest centre, announced yesterday that the centre, in a joint venture with MaRS, will launch a line of games aimed at helping baby boomers keep their minds sharp. The announcement was made at the Ontario Innovation Summit on the Business of Aging.

Baycrest to exercise boomers' brains

HEALTH Toronto's Baycrest centre is staking a claim to a piece of the booming brain fitness market with a new company, Cogniciti, and a new generation of brain games aimed at helping baby boomers keep their minds sharp and boost their productivity in the workplace well into old age.

Think of this as a precursor of what may soon be the hottest new craze in the aging workplace — brain fitness centres where you can get your cognitive skills tested and tweaked in a way that will help you think faster, focus better, remember more and maybe even fight off the symptoms of dementia and Alzheimer's until well into the golden years.

The joint venture between Baycrest and MaRS is also meant to show the world that Ontario can lead the way in turning cutting-edge research into commercial tools that can help tackle the biggest social issue of our times — the so-called "silver tsunami" of baby boomers about to reach the age of 65 who aren't ready to retire.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

City councillors limit political donations

POLITICS Toronto city councillors have decided they will no longer accept campaign donations from corporations or unions, putting pressure on the provincial government to ban the practice in all municipalities across Ontario.

"This is kind of a revolutionary day," Councillor Michael Walker, who pushed for the reform, said after the 29-12 vote. "We've broken the dam of resistance."

The issue has been before Toronto council off and on for several years, but the politicians have resisted reform until now.

Wednesday's vote means future candidates will have to rely on individuals to fund their ward campaigns, which typically have a spending limit of around $40,000. However, council also voted 27-13 to study the feasibility of providing some city funding for campaigns.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

CIBC's stock traders help out kids

Yesterday was CIBC's 25th Miracle Day, and the company didn't collect a single penny. Every year, on the first Wednesday of December, the bank donates all commissions collected from trading clients to children's charities across Canada. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Late Rogers gets his Way

City honours media mogul by renaming part of Jarvis

A stretch of a downtown Toronto street was renamed in honour of late media mogul Ted Rogers yesterday — the first anniversary of his death.

The creator of Canada's largest cable-television and mobile-phone company, Rogers Communications Inc., died Dec. 2, 2008 at the age of 75.

A section of Jarvis Street, which runs past Rogers headquarters and spans Bloor and Charles streets, has been renamed Ted Rogers Way.

His wife Loretta said the family is grateful for all the tributes.

"In many ways Ted was larger than life, so today's events add to this legacy," she said at a ceremony were the street sign was unveiled.

"I'm sure he is pleased and I know we in the Rogers family are very pleased."

In addition to the Rogers cable, wireless, radio and television businesses, the company owns the Toronto Blue Jays and their home the Rogers Centre and an array of other media properties.

Rogers had been treated in hospital in October 2008 for an existing heart condition.

Tall and sandy-haired, he was known as a workaholic and a demanding boss.

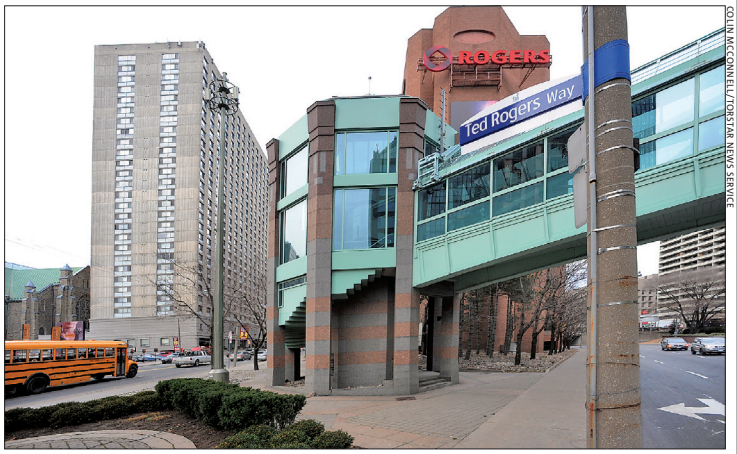
An event that decisively shaped his life was the death of his father when he was five years old.

Edward Rogers, a radio pioneer who founded Toronto radio station CFRB (for Canada's First Rogers Batteryless), was 39 when he died of overwork and a bleeding ulcer in the late 1930s.

"I didn't get into broadcasting out of any smarts," Rogers once said. "I was emotionally attracted to it because of my father."

Rogers married his wife in 1963 and is also survived by their four children — Edward, Lisa, Melinda and Martha.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



COLIN MACCONNELL/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

The stretch of Jarvis Street between Bloor and Charles streets has been renamed in honour of the late media mogul Ted Rogers yesterday on the first anniversary of his death.

Zoo under fire after elephant dies

ANIMALS After the fourth elephant death at the Toronto Zoo in four years, a California-based animal rights group is calling for the "cramped" and "unnatural" exhibit to be shut down and the three remaining animals sent to a sanctuary.

"The Toronto Zoo lacks the space and natural conditions necessary to the health and well-being of African elephants," said Catherine Doyle, director of In Defense of Animals, in a news release issued yesterday.

On Monday, Tara, a seemingly healthy 41-year-old elephant who was the matriarch of the zoo's four-member herd, fell over and died despite attempts to right her. Elephants are in danger when lying down because of the weight put on their organs.

Another elephant, 40-year-old Tessa, was killed five months ago after being knocked over by another elephant rushing to feed on hay.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Lifespan

- The Toronto Zoo says the normal lifespan for the African elephants is 40 to 45 years.

Teacher charged with sex assault

CRIME A Toronto elementary school teacher who also works in an adult novelty store has been charged with sexually assaulting a 15-year-old boy.

Police allege a boy went to the store on the night of Nov. 25, where he and an employee struck up a conversation.

The two went to the employee's home, where police say the sexual assault took place.

Shawn Carr, 31, of Toronto, is charged with sexual assault and sexual interference.

Carr teaches at Oakridge Junior Public School in east Toronto. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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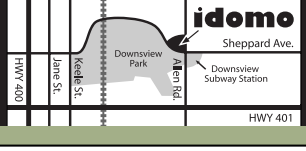

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CTV NEWS

Ken Shaw & Christine Bentley

Senior dies after being hit by SUV

Eugenia Konat, 81, died in hospital a few hours after being struck by an SUV at the Clarkson Village Shopping Centre Tuesday afternoon. The SUV also smashed through a brick wall and drove into a HomeSense store. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Environmentalists praise Ontario

CLIMATE Ontario is making significant strides towards reducing harmful greenhouse gas emissions, say environmentalists who have reviewed the province's second annual report on climate change.

The report, released yesterday, says Ontario is 71 per cent of the way toward its reduction targets for 2014 and 56 per cent of the way toward its 2020 goals.

The province plans to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by six per cent below 1990 levels by 2014 and 15 per cent below 1990 levels by 2020. That will drive per capita emissions to just more than 10 tonnes a person — less than half of today's national average, the Climate Change Action Plan annual report states.

Ontario has "come a long way" in a number of climate change initiatives, Environment Minister John Gerretsen told reporters.

Overall, the report received favourable grades from environmentalists — who said there is a glaring contrast between what Ontario and Quebec are doing to fight climate change and the actions of the Conservative federal government.

ANDREW WALLACE/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Environment Minister John Gerretsen says Ontario has "come a long way" in its climate change initiatives

The report was released in advance of the Copenhagen climate-change conference, which begins Dec. 7. Leaders of 180 countries will gather in Denmark to try to hammer out a successor accord to the 1997 Kyoto Protocol.

Canada has one of the weakest emissions targets of rich countries, and its emissions are more than 30 per cent higher than where they were supposed to be when it signed the treaty.

"When you contrast (Ontario) with what they are doing at the federal government, it is like a breath of fresh air," said Matt Price, Environmental Defense Canada's program manager for energy and climate.

Gerretsen said he is not going to Copenhagen to "fight" with the federal government but to meet with others who are making progress on climate change.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Feds cut funding to local church group

A Toronto church-based group that does human rights and environmental sustainability work says the federal government has cancelled its funding for overseas projects without warning or reason.

"We are disheartened that this long-standing relationship and decades of support by the Canadian government has ended."

Mary Corkery, executive director of Kairos

Supporters of Kairos say the ecumenical social justice group is being punished for being critical of the oilsands and the Harper government's climate change policy.

Kairos, which represents 11 different churches and organizations, said a decision by the Canadian International Development Agency to cut its funding will force it to stop operating in troubled areas such as Sudan, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Central America and the West Bank in the Middle East.

"We are disheartened that this long-standing relationship and decades of support by the Canadian government has ended," Mary Corkery, the executive director of Kairos, said yesterday.

"Kairos and the millions of Canadians we represent through our member churches and organizations do not understand why these cuts have been made."

Corkery said a CIDA official called Kairos Monday to say the group's application for $7 million to cover its overseas costs until 2013 would not be granted.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Greyhound cutting bus services in Ontario

TRANSIT Travellers who take the Greyhound bus in Ontario will face service reductions in the new year, the company said yesterday.

Greyhound Canada said it will scale back some of its passenger bus services in the province in response to financial losses.

Route to Falls cut

- One trip daily each way is being shaved from the Toronto to Niagara Falls route.

The announcement came the same day that a company-set deadline to reach a funding deal with the provincial government expired, with the government saying it has no plans to give the bus company a subsidy. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Vancouver's beluga whale now in the swim — as Nala
Vancouver Aquarium members, in a online vote, have selected Nala as the name for the newest beluga whale, a six-month-old female. Nala is a shortened form of the Inuktitut word for "surprise gift." THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada

Edmonton's fair chance

Alberta Premier Ed Stelmach, left, is offering strong words of support for Edmonton's bid to host a world's fair in 2017 with an energy-related theme. But he stopped short of offering a firm commitment to finance the fair, which is expected to cost at least $2.3 billion. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canadian politics follow PM to China

Prime Minister Stephen Harper has unveiled the government's fourth economic stimulus report card — in China.

The prime minister landed in Beijing on a cold, grey afternoon yesterday and released the update about six hours before Finance Minister Jim Flaherty was to repeat the exercise in Winnipeg.

The unusual setting was made necessary, Harper said, because his recent busy foreign travel schedule did not allow him the opportunity to comment on the update in Canada.

"The economy remains our No. 1 priority wherever we are in the world," he explained.

"When we travel abroad and promote Canadian business, investment and trade, that's also a pretty important part of our economic action plan."

ELIZABETH DALZIEL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Flanked by an honour guard, Prime Minister Stephen Harper and his wife, Laureen, arrive yesterday in Beijing.

The report card boasts that the government has committed to 97 per cent of this year's stimulus spending, up from the 90 per cent it cited in September.

And it says about 8,000 of more than 12,000 approved projects are already underway, although that could include anything from planning to actual shovels on the ground.

> **"It's shovels in the ground and construction work that counts."**
> John McCallum

Back in Ottawa, however, Liberal finance critic John McCallum was unimpressed.

"It's full of weasel words," McCallum said.

"In terms of creating or saving jobs, it's shovels in the ground and construction work that counts, not commitments."

Just because more than 90 per cent of the money has been committed doesn't mean people are actually at work, he said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

News in brief

RAIL DEAL Canadian National Railway and the Teamsters union reached a deal yesterday to end a strike by locomotive engineers. Teamsters Canada president Daniel Shewchuk said the engineers will get back to work as quickly as possible. CN will not proceed with controversial work rule changes.

GOOGLE Another nine Canadian cities can now be toured through Google Street View. Victoria, Nanaimo, Edmonton, Saskatoon, Winnipeg, Sudbury, London, Ont., Sherbrooke and St. John's, N.L., are among more than 20 cities photographed for the feature.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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SCANLIFE

Ottawa's economic update boasts of success on infrastructure and job creation, but how the Tories reached their numbers is a mystery. Scan this barcode for the full story.

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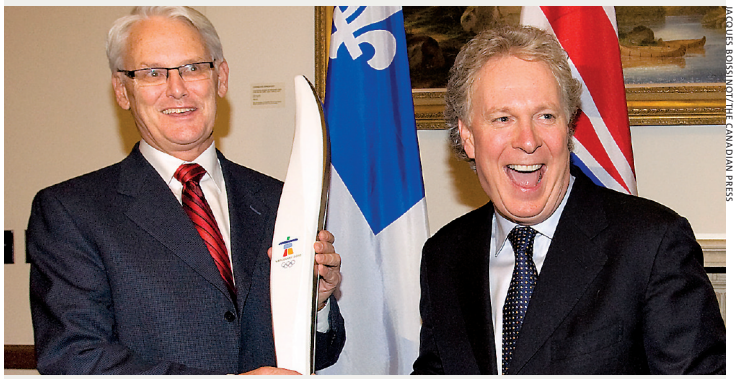
Thirsk has a thirst for more space travel

Canadian astronaut Bob Thirsk is just back on the ground after six months in space, but he's already talking about going back up. The 56-year-old says he would jump at the opportunity to fly beyond the Earth again. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Olympics **Premiers keep Games spirit burning**



JACQUES BOISSINOT/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Quebec Premier Jean Charest, right, laughs as he's presented with an official 2010 Olympic torch by B.C. counterpart Gordon Campbell as they meet yesterday at Charest's office in Quebec City. Follow the Olympic torch's journey with an interactive map at metronews.ca/sports.

Red Cross alarm bell

Agency warned Canadians, Afghan memos suggest

Ottawa has taken a new hit on the Afghan torture file.

The International Red Cross met twice with senior Canadian officials in Kandahar to deliver veiled but insistent warnings about torture in Afghan jails, it was revealed yesterday.

The 2006 meetings — outlined in uncensored memos examined by The Canadian Press — took place a year before Canada acted to protect detainees.

The new details undermine Ottawa's claims that diplomat Richard Colvin was a lone voice on the torture file.

"All kinds of things are going on."
Red cross warning

The Red Cross is prevented by international rules from using the term "torture."

But the risks were so dire that detainees might be tortured that the agency felt compelled to alert senior Canadians in person, say the memos.

At one 2006 meeting, a military lawyer, the RCMP officer in charge of training Afghan police and some of Canada's diplomatic staff were all advised about potential torture.

The Red Cross warned: "All kinds of things are going on."

The wording is clear diplomatic code for torture, says University of Ottawa law professor Errol Mendes. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Tories blacked out 'torture' in Afghan reports, NDP claims

AFGHANISTAN The Conservative government has used national security to justify the removal of references to "extrajudicial executions" and "torture" in reports on Afghanistan, says NDP MP Paul Dewar.

Conservative ministers have said the documents had to be censored for national security reasons before they could be released to opposition MPs and the public.

But the NDP says it has an uncensored version of one report and comparing the two, has found that the "national security" deletions include the line: "Extrajudicial executions, disappearances, torture and detention without trial are all too common." THE CANADIAN PRESS

News in brief

AFGHANISTAN NATO's commander in Afghanistan says the south will be the focus of a new counter-insurgency effort based around the 30,000 additional soldiers the United States is committing to the war. U.S. Army Gen. Stanley McChrystal said at Kandahar Airfield there is a one- to two-year window for coalition forces to turn back an insurgency that appears to be gathering in strength. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Vaughan Mills
Westmount Shopping Centre
White Oaks Mall
Woodbine Centre
Yorkdale Mall

Construction begins on First Nation lobster plant
Construction has begun on the first lobster processing plant to be owned and operated by a First Nation in Atlantic Canada in P.E.I. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Police praise driver for avoiding rollover

School bus, pickup truck collide on highway

Police say quick thinking by a school bus driver prevented a tragedy yesterday on a dew-covered highway in central Ontario.

Seven students suffered minor injuries such as cuts and bruises after their bus was involved in a head-on crash in Norwood, east of Peterborough, Ont., just before 7 a.m.

Provincial police Const. Iain McEwan said the full-sized bus was carrying about 45 people when it collided with a pickup truck.

The bus driver is being credited by police for keeping the bus upright and preventing a rollover.

"The (bus) driver was able to, either through luck of the draw or through just outright muscling the bus, to keep it in an upright position," said McEwan.

"He did quite a good job."

CLIFFORD SKARSTEDT/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Investigator Mike Downs of the OPP Central Region Traffic Unit investigates a serious head-on collision between a school bus and a pickup on Highway 7 yesterday. The driver of the pickup was airlifted to hospital. Injured students and a teacher were also transported to hospital.

McEwan said the bus driver was shaken up but was speaking to officers at the scene. The truck driver, however, suffered serious injuries and was airlifted to the trauma unit of a Toronto hospital.

The injured students — who were headed to the Ottawa area on a field trip — were taken to hospitals in Peterborough and Campbellford.

CTV News said all the students were treated and released.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Cold case murder returns to U.S. court in March

An Orange County, Calif., engineer charged in the grisly murder of a Canadian nurse more than 30 years ago will be back in court in March. Douglas Gordon Bradford was charged in May with strangling his 28-year-old ex-girlfriend Lynne Knight and stabbing her more than 15 times at her apartment in August, 1979. THE CANADIAN PRESS

H1N1 affects younger group

Details of who H1N1 is sending to hospitals and who it is killing show how different this virus is from seasonal influenza, the head of the Public Health of Canada said yesterday.

Flu Outbreak

Dr. David Butler-Jones said that where seasonal flu mainly kills the elderly, the pandemic virus is taking its worst toll on those far down the age spectrum.

"Those most seriously affected by H1(N1) are 23 to 45 years younger than what we see with seasonal flu," Butler-Jones said.

As of Nov. 21, the median age of a person hospitalized with H1N1 in Canada is 26 years old. That's 45 years younger than the median age of people hospitalized in the 2007-08 flu season.

And the median age of people admitted to ICUs is 45 years old — 23 years younger than 2007's median age of 68, he said.

The median age of Canadians who have died from H1N1 infections is 54 years old, compared to 2007's median age of 82.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

FRED CHARTRAND/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Health Minister Leona Aglukkaq listens to Chief Public Health Officer Dr. David Butler-Jones yesterday in Ottawa during a news conference to provide an update on the H1N1 flu virus.

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Politicians close ranks for taste of blubber

OTTAWA Canadian politicians gathered yesterday for a seal-tasting celebration in defiance of foreign critics.

Members of different parties got together on Parliament Hill in defence of the country's much-maligned seal hunt.

They first watched a movie about the hunt — and then they feasted on samples of the blubbery mammal.

Canadian politicians have almost unanimously defended the industry in the face of a ban by the European Union.

Some have questioned why that continent — which introduced the world to bullfighting — should have any right to question what they call an ethical hunt.

The hunt has traditionally supported communities in the country's poorest regions, along the East Coast and in the Inuit North.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Iran argues immunity in Canadian court

KAZEMI One of the world's most controversial regimes was in a Canadian courtroom yesterday arguing that it cannot be held civilly responsible for the deadly prison-beating of Montreal photojournalist Zahra Kazemi.

The Iranian government defended itself through a Montreal law firm in a $17-million civil suit launched by the estate and family of the Iranian-Canadian woman over her detention, torture and slaying.

Lawyers representing the Iranian government argued that neither it nor its leader, Grand Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, can be sued under Canada's State Immunity Act and the case should be dismissed.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Raise GST, group urges

Says action needed to control debt

Canada should tackle its growing debt and the threat of chronic structural deficits by increasing the GST, perhaps to nine per cent, and cutting program spending, the co-president of the DBRS rating service said yesterday.

While politicians are loathe to raise taxes, dramatic action is required to prevent the country's debt from spiralling out of control, Peter Bethlenfalvy said.

"It's not whether they (taxes) will go up, it's 100 per cent certain that they will go up."

The Conservative government reduced the Goods and Services Tax to five per cent from seven per cent a few years ago. But a reversal is now required to help improve the country's fiscal health, he said.

Bethlenfalvy said raising the consumption task is probably the "smartest" tax to increase.

"It shouldn't have gone down two per cent, it should go back up, and maybe two percentage points higher," he said after presenting DBRS' views on Canada's economic position following the global financial crisis.

$13.1B
Canada's current account deficit, a measure of the country's economic dealings with the rest of the world.

Failure to act will see interest costs increasingly become a more significant part of the deficit, said Bethlenfalvy, who hopes to spur popular support for tough measures.

"We can't, as citizens, keep demanding a pension plan, health-care services, education and, at the same time, not pay for them."

Government officials couldn't be immediately reached for comment. But Finance Minister Jim Flaherty recently dashed talk of tax hikes, saying the federal government won't raise taxes or cut transfers to provinces or individuals in order to pay off Ottawa's deficit. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Flaherty estimates job figures

STIMULUS The federal government's infrastructure program is supposed to create jobs, but there are few details on how it is doing.

Finance Minister Jim Flaherty, who was in Winnipeg yesterday, said the government is on track to create or maintain 220,000 jobs this year and next as part of its overall economic plan. The estimate includes 50,000 jobs connected to the auto industry.

Jim Flaherty

Flaherty couldn't say exactly how many jobs the infrastructure program has created beyond that, although he suspects it's responsible for a large part of the remaining 170,000.

The Liberals say exact job numbers should be available because municipalities who take part in the infrastructure program are required to submit that information. Flaherty insisted stimulus dollars are working. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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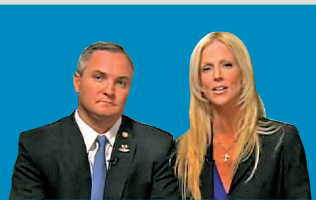
U.S. approves funding for embryonic stem cell study
A new era in embryonic stem cell research arrived as the U.S. government approved 13 batches of the master cells for a study using taxpayer dollars, with dozens more in the pipeline. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

World



Party crashers not invited: Emails

Copies of emails between the White House party crashers and a Pentagon official undermine their claims that they were invited to U.S. President Barack Obama's first state dinner. Tareq and Michaele Salahi pressed the friendly Pentagon aide for four days to score tickets to the big event in honour of Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh. By their own admission in the emails, they showed up at the White House gates at 6:30 p.m. on Nov. 24 without an invitation. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Allies pledge more troops

European and other U.S. allies will contribute more than 5,000 new troops to the international force in Afghanistan, NATO's chief said, declaring that the war is not America's alone.

Still, aside from Poland, the pledges came in small numbers from small nations. European powers like France and Germany praised U.S. President Barack Obama's speech on his strategy for Afghanistan but were silent on the offer of new troops.

A Polish official said the government will likely send 600 reinforcements, mainly for patrolling and training, to beef up its existing 2,000-strong contingent. Albania pledged to increase its 250-member unit by 85 troops, trainers and medical workers. Spain's defence ministry was looking at adding 200 soldiers to its 1,000 contingent. Italy declared it would do its part and Finland said it would make a commitment next week.

Britain, France and Germany held off on pledges of new troops, waiting for an Afghanistan conference planned for late January.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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ScanLife

Experts point to a lack of credibility and political will for the U.S. as reasons for Europe's tepid response to the surge plan. Scan this barcode for the full story.

PABLO MARTINEZ MONSIVAIS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CodePink demonstrators hold up signs in Washington yesterday as Admiral Mike Mullen arrives to testify before the Senate Armed Services Committee hearing on the U.S. strategy in Afghanistan.

U.S. war plan 'no solution': Taliban

STATEMENT The Taliban rebuffed U.S. President Barack Obama's new war plan for Afghanistan yesterday, saying his strategy to send 30,000 new troops will only lead to more U.S. casualties.

Obama said U.S. forces may begin leaving Afghanistan in 18 months. Gen. Stanley McChrystal, the top U.S. commander in the country, said the Afghan government and its international partners should use the coming year-and-a-half to convince the Taliban they can't win and offer militants a way to quit the insurgency "with dignity."

The Taliban said the plan was "no solution for the problems of Afghanistan" and would give insurgents an opportunity "to increase their attacks and shake the American economy." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tamiflu-resistant flu strain didn't spread: WHO

Flu Outbreak

HEALTH The World Health Organization says there is no evidence to date that Tamiflu-resistant viruses spread outside of two clusters of cases among immunocompromised patients in hospitals in Wales and the U.S.

The agency says the investigation is underway, but early results suggest the resistant viruses don't spread easily to healthy people, especially those following proper infection control procedures.

The two clusters involved eight patients in a hospital in Cardiff, Wales and four in North Carolina.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHAPTERS EXCLUSIVE
Hulk Hogan
Wednesday, December 9th, 6:30pm
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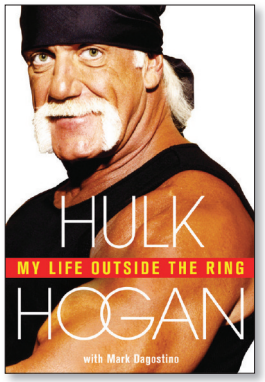

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NATO, Asian nations disagree on human rights
Foreign Ministers of NATO and central Asian countries have pledged to tighten security co-operation but failed to agree on several common initiatives on human rights issues. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Iran sets British sailors free

Illegal entry was a mistake, says country's Revolutionary Guard

Iran freed five British sailors detained last week when their racing yacht drifted accidentally into Iranian waters in the Persian Gulf. Britain said it was delighted with yesterday's release and praised Tehran's handling of the incident.

The men arrived on shore in Dubai yesterday, flashing smiles, waving at the cameras and looking relaxed.

The 60-foot yacht was in the Persian Gulf on its way from Bahrain to Dubai last Wednesday for the start of its first offshore race when it ran into a problem with its propeller, said Andrew Pindar, whose Team Pindar owns the yacht. It drifted into Iranian waters and was seized by the elite Revolutionary Guard's navy.

"After carrying out an investigation and interrogation of the five British sailors, it became clear that their illegal entry was a mistake," the Revolutionary Guard said in a statement carried by the official IRNA news agency. "After obtaining necessary guarantees, it was decided to release them."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

KAMRAN JEBREILI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

British sailors pose together on the dock side in Dubai, United Arab Emirates,after being released by Iran yesterday.

Iran says it will enrich uranium on its own

POLTICS Iran said yesterday it will enrich uranium to a higher level on its own, the latest indication the country was rejecting a UN-backed proposal aimed at thwarting any effort by Tehran to make material for a nuclear weapon.

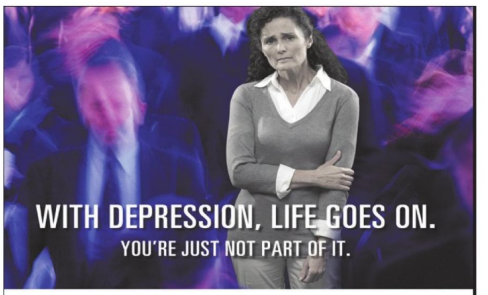
President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad insisted Iran will not negotiate with the West over its nuclear program.

"You should know that even if you sizzle (from impatience or desire to talk) ... the Iranian nation won't talk to you concerning the nuclear issue," he said.

Ahmadinejad made the comments after expressing frustration with the ongoing negotiations over the UN proposal that Iran exchange the bulk of its low-enriched uranium for more highly enriched fuel rods to be used in a medical research nuclear reactor.

Low-enriched uranium can be used as fuel for nuclear energy, but enriched to much higher levels, it can be used as material for a weapon.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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Don't build resort on reserve: Activists
Environmental activists called on Russian President Dmitry Medvedev to stop plans for building a government resort at a southern nature reserve. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Activists find more than 2,000 bodies

Allege some dead were killed by security forces

Nearly 2,600 bodies have been discovered in single unmarked and mass graves throughout mountainous Indian Kashmir, human rights activists said yesterday, alleging some of the dead were likely innocent people killed by security forces.

MUKHTAR KHAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Angna Chatterji, from the International People's Tribunal on Human Rights and Justice, speaks yesterday as lawyer Pervez Imroz looks on during a press conference in Srinagar, India. Human rights workers have found the graves of nearly 2,600 unidentified people in Indian Kashmir.

More than a dozen Kashmiri rebel groups have been fighting for independence from India or a union with predominantly Muslim Pakistan since 1989. Rights groups say there have been more than 8,000 disappearances since the rebellion began.

Researchers from the International People's Tribunal on Human Rights and Justice, an Indian Kashmir-based rights group, said they found the graves in 55 villages during a three-year survey that concluded last month.

In a report titled "Buried Evidence" released yesterday, the group documented 2,373 "unmarked and mass graves" containing nearly 2,600 bodies. It said 177 of the graves contained more than one body.

"We're not saying who is in each grave. But we're saying these are unnamed graves and it's imperative to investigate the issue by an independent international body," said Angna Chatterji, one of the group's members.

The report also said it found evidence of 47 civilians being killed by security forces, who later claimed they were militants. Human rights workers have complained for years that innocent people have disappeared and been killed by government forces in staged gunbattles.

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Defendant pleads guilty to hate crime after immigrant stabbed

One of six remaining defendants awaiting trial in the fatal stabbing of an Ecuadorean immigrant in New York has pleaded guilty to gang assault as a hate crime. Jose Pacheco agreed yesterday to testify against other defendants accused in the death of dry-cleaning worker Marcelo Lucero. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

U.S. to end bailout: Treasury

U.S. Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner affirmed yesterday the administration's intent to soon end the $700-billion US financial bailout program.

Geithner did not provide details, but said the government is close to the point at which "we can wind down this program" and end it.

"Nothing would make me happier," he told the Senate Agriculture Committee.

Some lawmakers have been agitating for an exit from the politically unpopular bailout program, approved by Congress at the height of the financial crisis in October 2008 as a way to supply banks with fresh capital.

$700B

The amount of the U.S. financial bailout program.

Geithner also said legislation to bring transparency to the global, $600-trillion unregulated derivatives market was needed soon to restore confidence in the U.S. financial system.

Geithner faced friendly questioning from the agriculture panel, in sharp contrast to a sometimes contentious hearing two weeks ago by Congress' Joint Economic Committee — with one lawmaker calling on him to resign.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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In this handout photo provided by Gorilla.cd, the website of Virunga National Park, orphaned baby gorilla Ndeze shows affection to her carer Andre Bauma in Goma, Congo.

New home for gorillas after unrest in Congo subsides

Conservationists say two baby mountain gorillas have moved to a lush jungle sanctuary formerly closed to them because of violent instability in eastern Congo.

Virunga National Park director Emmanuel de Merode said yesterday the gorillas moved Tuesday into their new home in the park.

The orphaned gorillas were forced to live in a house in the bustling city of Goma for two years because of fighting in eastern Congo.

Female orphans Ndeze and Ndakasi were abandoned in 2007 and are the world's only captive baby mountain gorillas.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

News in brief

TBILISI Officials in Georgia and separatist South Ossetia say each side has released detainees who ventured into the others' territory. But a South Ossetian court yesterday convicted two detained Georgian teenagers of illegal border crossing and possession of explosives, and sentenced them to a year in prison. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Student arrested for Facebook threat

Student Nicolas Castro, 23, was arrested near Bogota yesterday for allegedly threatening on Facebook the son of Colombian President Alvaro Uribe. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

world 23

Mind to hand control

Amputee moves robotic hand connected to nerves

A robotic hand has been successfully connected to an amputee, allowing him to feel sensations in the artificial limb and control it with his thoughts, a group of European scientists said yesterday.

The experiment lasted a month, and scientists say it was the first time a patient has been able to make complex movements using his mind to control a biomechanic hand connected to his nervous system.

The Italian-led team said at a news conference yesterday in Rome that last year it implanted electrodes into the arm of the patient who had lost his left hand and forearm in a car accident. The prosthetic was not implanted on the patient, only connected through the electrodes.

During the news conference, video was shown of 26-year-old Pierpaolo Petruzziello as he concentrated to give orders to the hand placed next to him.

During the month he had the electrodes connected, Petruzziello learned to wiggle the robotic fingers independently, make a fist and grab objects. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ALESSANDRA TARANTINO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Amputee Pierpaolo Petruzziello touches a robotic hand yesterday during a press conference in Rome.

News in brief

HUNGARY A coffin containing the body of an Austrian billionaire has been returned to his family, more than a year after it was stolen from a graveyard in Velden, southern Austria, by thieves from Hungary and Romania who blackmailed the relatives for $150,000, police said yesterday. Austrian billionaire Friedrich Karl Flick had died two years earlier at a time when Forbes magazine said he was among the 100 richest people in the world. He owned Austria's largest private forest and led a German industrial empire. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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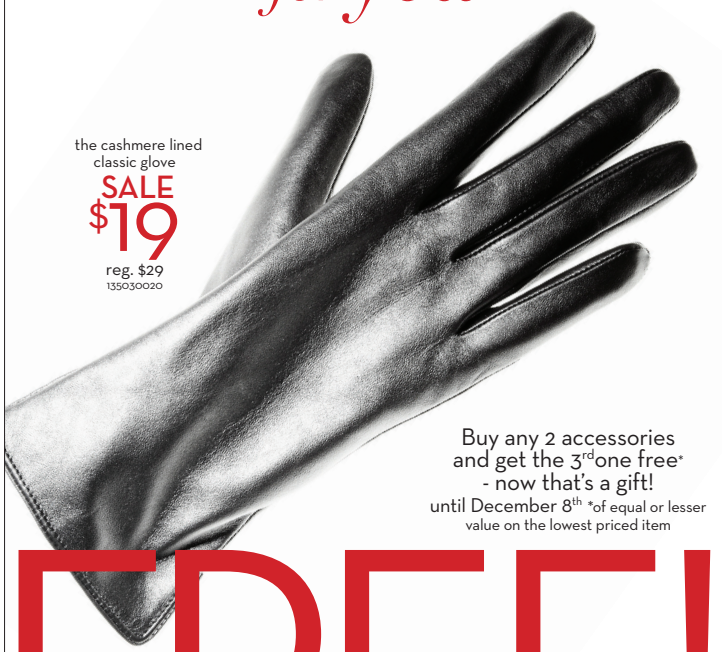

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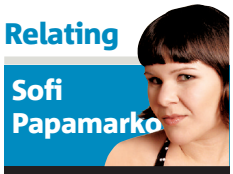
Comment

Drawing relationship battle lines

Relating



Sofi Papamarko

metronews.ca/papamarko

One of my superpowers is that I am an excellent judge of character. It doesn't take long for me to decipher whether someone is a good-hearted and decent soul or if they should be avoided at all costs. This is as true for potential friends as it is potential dates.

Unfortunately, not everyone shares this superpower. And sometimes, wonderful people get romantically involved with the deeply unworthy. Over the years, I have regrettably had several pals pair up with arrogant, ignorant, ambition-free jerk festivals.

It's a tricky position to be in, hating the partner of a friend. It's not easy biting your tongue until it bleeds.

Several years ago, I met a close friend's boyfriend for the first time. He picked us up in his car and promptly sparked a joint behind the wheel. He later yelled at an elderly relative, accusing her of stealing his liquor.

It was a banner Friday night.

My friend is no longer with this boy. This was a decision she made on her own.

When people fall in love, the flaws of their partners tend to be muted because they are thoroughly wrapped up in a magical world of puppies and kittens and butterflies.

It's a huge risk to let a friend know that you don't approve of their significant other. For some, anyone who does not love their lover becomes The Enemy. Logic and emotion are like oil and water. Speaking up about your reservations is a quick and easy way to make a friendship super awkward. Or end it.

For some, dating someone sub-par is preferable to being single. It's like a sad game of musical chairs; people scrambling to grab the nearest available chair, utterly terrified of being the one left standing.

But those with strong senses of self are fine to stand for a few rounds. Why rush to sit in a crappy chair that will give you splinters and quite possibly collapse?

If your particular "chair" is the product of shoddy craftsmanship, chuck it to the curb. Because somewhere, there is a kick-ass heated orthopedic chair with a built-in massage mechanism and a lifetime guarantee that's got your name on it.

Sofi Papamarko is a 20-something writer based in Toronto. Her heroes include Desmond Morris and Nancy Sinatra.

Views

Divorce sucks – but it doesn't have to

ModernLife

Georgie Binks

metronews.ca/modernlife

I remember years ago a very wise man telling me, "Divorce is all some people have to look forward to."

At the time, I thought divorce was sad. It was also before I'd been married and divorced. The actual truth about divorce as Mary Jo Eustace, author of Divorce Sucks, whose husband (Dean somebody) was stolen away by actress Tori Spelling, knows is that it can be the best thing to happen to you.

I originally picked up her book hoping it would be a dirt-filled slag-fest and I could feed my inner gossip. No bitter pill in Eustace's book though. Rather, a hilarious guide helping divorced, specifically dumped women, get through the trauma, or as Eustace calls it, a "tsunami" of divorce.

Eustace was initially caught off guard when her husband de-camped. In retrospect she realized divorce had been imminent when she examined her marriage. That's what happens when most of us do. Husband not interested in sex? He hates you. You cringe at the sound of him breathing or eating cereal. You hate him.

However, some people don't have the guts to pull the plug. When women like Spelling come along, they do us a favour. What you get is to be yourself again and a second chance at life. As Eustace says, it's a "reintroduction to yourself." In other words, it's psychological botox, a good hair day and a laxative that actually works, all rolled up in one.

She encourages women to depend on themselves, which means establishing fair custody and child support as well as sticking up for themselves in terms of spousal support. She reminds women to run their personal lives as businesses of which they are now the CEO.

And, finally, she counsels them to enjoy themselves. If marriage is a lifetime commitment (or for some a life sentence) but you got fired, embrace your new life. Says Eustace, "You're no longer on a day pass. This is your life and you're in charge."

Georgie Binks is a Toronto freelance writer who writes about gender and relationships; georgiebinks@rogers.com

MICHAEL DEADDER

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45	$18	$26	$38	$14	$18	$27
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Fiber Optic Systems loss widens

Fiber Optic Systems Technology, a Toronto-based patented sensing systems developer, suffered a $933,000 third-quarter loss, an increase from $897,000 last year, as expenses increased and revenues dropped. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Business

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EDITOR: FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

KAMRAN JEBREILI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE PHOTO

The Burj Dubai tower, seen in this under construction photo from August, rises above a new annex of the city that was originally designed as a cluster of towers — which is now put on hold because of the economic crunch. That leaves it soaring above what amounts to high-priced empty lots.

Dubai's last hurrah?

Tower opening may be end of age of excess

When work began in 2004 to build the world's tallest tower, Dubai's confidence also was sky high with a host of mega-projects on the drawing board or rising from the sands.

That swagger now has been tripped up by a debt crunch that has exposed the shaky foundations of the city-state's boom years — leaving the planned Jan. 4 opening of the iconic Burj Dubai as a farewell toast to Dubai's age of excess. Most other super-projects announced in recent years, such as a second palm-shaped island, a desert Xanadu that included a Universal Studios theme park, or a tower to surpass the Burj Dubai, are either recession roadkill or being considered on a far smaller scale.

The recession barged in last year and quickly dried up the cheap cash flow.

Dubai's boosters hope the opening of the Burj Dubai — which includes offices, residences and a hotel — will give them at least some respite from the bad news. The Dubai PR machine is working overtime. But there's some facts that are still closely guarded, including how much of the office and residential space is leased and whether the financial meltdown will make the Burj another tower of debt.

A report in October by the Investment Boutique, a real estate advisory firm in Dubai, said prices in the area had slumped by 77 per cent since a year earlier. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Burj Dubai

- Cost: $4.1 billion US
- 160 storeys topped by a spire that reaches 818 metres, well above runner-up skyscraper, Taipei 101 in Taiwan, at 508 metres.
- The Burj has pushed past other giant structures taller than Taipei 101, such as Toronto's 553-metre CN Tower.

$1 coin joins Canadian Tire money

REWARDS Canadian Tire money is getting a new $1 coin, manufactured by the Royal Canadian Mint, for a limited time.

Canadian Tire Corp. announced yesterday it will begin offering customers the new addition this weekend.

The "money," previously available only in bill form, will bear the image of Sandy McTire, the company's fictional mascot.

Canadian Tire said it plans to launch a new loyalty program by the end of next year, though it still plans to keep the traditional money in circulation. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Business in brief

LAYOFFS Talisman Energy Inc., a Calgary-based company that produces oil and gas around the globe, is laying off 220 workers in its North American natural gas business, which is in the midst of restructuring. The job losses amount to 15 per cent of its North American workforce. Most of the cuts affect workers in Calgary. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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BIO-FEN PLUS™ is a natural health product used in the treatment of hereditary androgenic alopecia *(AGA)* in adults ***(male or female pattern baldness.)*** It contains scientifically calculated proportions of extracts of fenugreek seeds, saw palmetto berries and flax lignans. Each are known to possess an inhibitor of the enzyme responsible for causing male or female pattern baldness. It also contains a mixture of B vitamins, folate and biotin to help metabolize these herbal extracts so that they are more bio-available, and to support the growth of strong and healthy hair.

What causes hereditary hair loss?

Each hair grows from a pocket in the skin called the hair follicle. During its growing phase, the follicle has a bulb-shaped bottom, the center of which is called the dermal papilla. The papilla is fed by very small blood vessels, which bring it food & oxygen and remove wastes. The papilla is highly sensitive to hormones and chemicals secreted by the body *(or ingested as a medicine)* which impacts hair growth.

It is believed that some individuals have a genetic predisposition to a receding hairline *(most common in men)* or hair/follicle thinning over larger areas of scalp *(more common in women)*. These conditions result from hormonal changes caused by an enzyme in the dermal papilla called 5-alpha-reductase. This enzyme breaks down the hormone testosterone into dihydrotestosterone *(DHT)*.

Over a period of time, an over abundance of DHT causes the hair follicle to degrade and shortens the active phase of the hair, eventually leading to thinner hair and eventual hair loss.

How does BIO-FEN PLUS™ *work?*

Specific compounds within the herbal extracts inhibit the 5-alpha-reductase *(and therefore reduce DHT)* to prevent or slow down the rate of hair loss. This process is the principle by which the prescription drugs such as Propecia *(finasteride)* work. However, BIO-FEN PLUS™ also contains additional compounds which remove excess cholesterol and testosterone – the building blocks of DHT.

BIO-FEN PLUS™ also contains vitamins to increase blood flow to the small capillaries that feed the hair roots, to deliver the active herbal compounds and remove waste. **Therefore, BIO-FEN PLUS™ provides a natural, safer alternative to expensive drugs, and/or expensive & painful hair transplants.** As with the prescription alternatives, results vary from person to person, and no one product will work for everyone.

How long must I use BIO-FEN PLUS™ *?*

BIO-FEN PLUS™ capsules are usually effective at stopping hair loss within the first two months. However, since healthy hair grows only about 1 cm each month, it may take up to three months before you notice that hair growth is increased or further hair loss is stopped.

Anyone experiencing new growth will see it within four to six months. Once results become apparent, some users are able to reduce their BIO-FEN PLUS™ supplement dose to one capsule every second or every third day. Some clients will continue to take BIO-FEN PLUS™ daily. Once you stop completely, however, your hair growth pattern will slowly go back to the point where you started.

How safe is BIO-FEN PLUS™ *?*

The ingredient combination in BIO-FEN PLUS™ is generally safe for most adults. However, the following cautions are advised:

Folic acid: Consult a health care practitioner if you are uncertain whether or not you are taking adequate vitamin B12, as folate supplementation can mask a Vitamin B12 deficiency.

Vitamin B3: Consult a health care practitioner prior to use if you have impaired liver function.

Vitamin B6: Consult a health care practitioner prior to use if you are taking levodopa.

What is the quality of BIO-FEN PLUS™ *?*

BIO-FEN PLUS™ is manufactured in Canada according to a quality assurance program called Good Manufacturing Practices *(GMP)*. This ensures that the ingredients are tested for their level of quality, potency & purity, prior to production and again prior to sale.

See our website to locate your nearest Health Food Store or Pharmacy that offers BIO-FEN PLUS™ and other quality products from Hair Grow Technology. If you have any questions or comments about our products that target hair loss and support the growth of strong, healthy hair, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Each BIO-FEN PLUS™ *capsule contains (mg/capsule):*

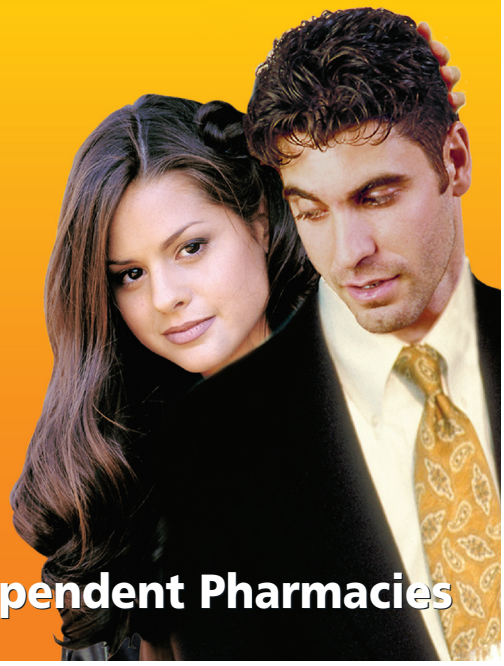
Fenugreek *(Trigonella feonum graecum)* seed extract 4:1	260 mg
Saw palmetto berry extract contains 45% powder, esters & sterols	160 mg
Flax lignans, standardized to 20% secoisolariciresinol diglucoside *(SDG)*	100 mg
D-calcium pantothenate *(Vitamin B5)*	10.40 mg
Niacinamide *(Vitamin B3)*	10.25 mg
Pyridoxine HCl *(Vitamin B6)*	2.00 mg
Riboflavin *(Vitamin B2)*	1.58 mg
Folic acid	0.095 mg
Biotin	400 mcg

Non-medicinal ingredients: inert microcrystalline cellulose and vegetable-based magnesium stearate in a veggie-based capsule.

Recommended adult dose: one capsule per day

BIO-FEN PLUS

www.biofen.com



Available at Health Food stores and Independent Pharmacies

UFC headed to Australia

The UFC is going Down Under, the mixed martial arts organization confirmed yesterday. UFC 110 is scheduled for Feb. 21 at the Acer Arena in Sydney. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sports

Iverson back in Philly

Allen Iverson is rejoining the Philadelphia 76ers. Sixers president Ed Stefanski announced the signing yesterday on the team's website. Iverson is expected to make his debut Monday at home against the Denver Nuggets.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

EDITOR: DON.MCHOULL@METRONEWS.CA

Tiger's financial empire unscathed

Major sponsors stand behind star golfer despite drama surrounding SUV crash

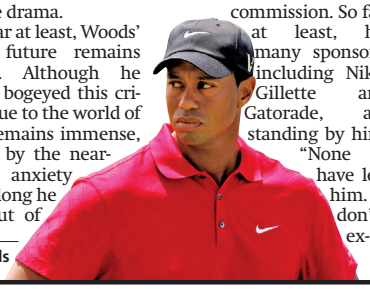
He is Tiger Inc. Hear him roar.

Multimillion-dollar contracts. An estimated $100 million US in endorsements per year. More than $92 million from PGA career tournament winings. Ballooning PGA ticket sales and TV viewership levels.

Tiger Woods was, until now at least, a thoroughly unpolarizing sponge for corporate money which, according to Forbes magazine, is the first billion-dollar pro athlete in the history of sport.

The mysterious middle-of-the-night SUV crash last week has cast a shadow over this empire. And revealing yet vague confessions of "personal sins" and "letting my family down" have only fuelled interest in his private drama.

Yet, so far at least, Woods' financial future remains unshaken. Although he may have bogeyed this crisis, his value to the world of pro golf remains immense, as shown by the near-universal anxiety over how long he will be out of commission. So far, at least, his many sponsors, including Nike, Gillette and Gatorade, are standing by him. "None have left him. I don't expect any to leave him. I don't expect it to adversely affect any deals he may be negotiating," said Marc Ganis, president of Sportscorp, a sports business consulting firm in Chicago. "He is arguably the most famous and attractive celebrity endorser in the world today. This incident has tarnished (that) only a bit."



Tiger Woods

Of course, sports marketing experts were cautious enough to note that the story, hitherto vague, could shift and becoming more lurid and embarrassing as details emerge.

"Things probably will change as this story continues to be played out," said Rick Burton, a professor at Syracuse University who specializes in sports marketing. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Woods' crash caused $3,200 in damage: Report

Tiger Woods caused $3,200 US in property damage, wasn't wearing a seatbelt and was driving erratically outside his Florida home before crashing into a tree, according to a final report released yesterday.

The six-page report only describes the accident and does not include statements from Woods, his wife, Elin Nordegren, or witnesses. It also included 105 photos of the accident scene.

The report's release came just hours after the world's No. 1 golfer put out a statement saying he had let his family down with "transgressions" he regrets "with all of my heart." That statement follows a cover story in Us Weekly magazine that reports a Los Angeles cocktail waitress claims she had a 31-month affair with Woods.

FLORIDA HIGHWAY PATROL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The street where Tiger Woods crashed his SUV is seen yesterday.

Early yesterday morning, the magazine published what it said was a voice mail — provided by Jaimee Grubbs — that Woods left on her phone Nov. 24, three days before his middle-of-the-night car crash outside his home in Isleworth, an exclusive gated community outside Orlando.

The final accident report shows Woods didn't just hit a fire hydrant and tree.

Upon leaving his driveway, Woods' vehicle rubbed up against a line of bushes, crossed over a curb, onto a grass median and into a row of hedges before swerving left into the hydrant and crashing into the tree, an illustration in the report shows. Woods' vehicle was travelling 30 m.p.h. (48 km/h) in a 25 m.p.h. (40 km/h) zone. Damage to the SUV was estimated at $8,000.

Photographs of the accident were taken by security officers in the Isleworth community, a neighbour and troopers. The photos show damage to both front sides of the Cadillac Escalade, and the windows on the back passenger doors were broken.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Owen says it's a challenge living in the media spotlight

No stranger to controversy, NFL receiver Terrell Owens knows a bit about what Tiger Woods has been dealing with recently and says a lack of privacy is the price of fame.

"That's just the nature of the business," the Buffalo Bills flamboyant receiver said yesterday. "When you're a big-time star like Tiger, those type of things just make headlines."

"When you're a big-time star like Tiger, those type of things just make headlines."
Terrell Owens

Woods has been at the centre of a media storm since last week after crashing his vehicle outside his Florida home. Yesterday, Woods made a public statement on his website that he had "not been true to my values and the behaviour my family deserves," and regretted those "transgressions with all of my heart."

The statement came after a waitress claimed she had a long affair with the star golfer.

"It's definitely a challenge," Owens said on the issue of celebrities protecting their privacy. "At the same time with that celebrity status there's a lot of responsibility that comes with that."

Owens was asked yesterday about his reaction to the Woods story and would only say it was "unfortunate" and a personal matter for the golfer.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Braves sign Wagner
The Atlanta Braves took another major step toward solidifying their pitching staff for next season, agreeing yesterday to a $7-million US, one-year contract with closer Billy Wagner. The 38-year-old Wagner missed most of last season following elbow ligament replacement surgery. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Owens says city is ready for NFL

T.O. has given Toronto a ringing endorsement as an NFL city.

Flamboyant receiver Terrell Owens and his Buffalo Bills teammates held their final walkthrough at Rogers Centre yesterday in preparation for their game tonight against their AFC East rivals, the New York Jets. The contest will be Owens' first in Canada but the third of eight — five regular season, three exhibition — Buffalo will play in Toronto through 2012.

"Definitely," Owens said when asked if Toronto could support an NFL franchise. "I think once the team is established in Toronto I'm sure the fans would gravitate to the team and support it.

"Winning obviously gets people into the seats. It's all about how you market the team and the NFL is marketing the game. I'm not sure what to expect. This is my first time here and it's going to be an experience for me probably as well as some of the other guys. I'm hoping that we can get a lot of those Toronto fans to root for the Bills."

DARREN CALABRESE/THE CANADIAN PRESS
Buffalo Bill Terrell Owens waits to speak to journalists yesterday at the Rogers Centre.

The Bills are looking for their first win in Toronto. They dropped an exhibition contest to Pittsburgh in August 2008 before losing 16-3 to Miami in December in the first regular-season game of the Toronto series.

Naturally, Owens sees himself as the perfect pitchman to make the NFL work in Toronto.

"Anything is up for an experiment," he said.

"I think it could happen, I think it could flourish with the right type of marketing and right type of players here in a city like Toronto ... like myself."

Owens, who turns 36 Monday, heads into today's game on a roll, having accumulated 378 yards receiving and two touchdowns in Buffalo's last three games.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Bills' Fitzpatrick staying as starter

NFL For the first time since taking over as the Buffalo Bills interim coach, Perry Fewell didn't find it necessary to announce his starting quarterback.

That decision is a given: Fewell's sticking with Ryan Fitzpatrick.

Ryan Fitzpatrick

The fifth-year player, who began the season as Trent Edwards' backup, has secured the No. 1 job, most likely for the rest of the year. Fitzpatrick will make his third consecutive start tonight when Buffalo (4-7) hosts the New York Jets (5-6) at the Rogers Centre.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

while roaming. As of December 1, 2009 a new municipal tax will apply in Quebec to help fund 911 emergency centers set at 40 cents/mo. by the Quebec government. Solo Mobile remits the required amount to Revenue Québec. Upon early termination, price adjustment charges apply. Subject to ell Mobility Inc.

Leafs play it safe with Gustavsson

NHL Toronto Maple Leafs goalie Jonas Gustavsson returned to Toronto yesterday and was scheduled to see a cardiac specialist.

Gustavsson was taken to hospital with an elevated heart rate following the first period of Toronto's 3-0 victory over the Montreal Canadiens Tuesday night.

It was labelled a precautionary move because the Swedish rookie needed to have minor heart surgery during training camp following a similar incident.

"We're just being ultra-cautious," said Leafs GM Brian Burke.

Gustavsson was examined at a Montreal hospital Tuesday night and released. After returning to Toronto yesterday, he was scheduled to see a cardiac specialist.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Montreal **Cheers for champs**

RYAN REMIORZ/THE CANADIAN PRESS
Montreal Alouettes quarterback Anthony Calvillo holds up the Grey Cup for the fans yesterday during a victory parade in Montreal. Tens of thousands of people swarmed the city's downtown streets. Chants of "Ole-Ole-Ole!" rang out from crowds that engulfed the city's core as Montrealers spent their lunch hour cheering on the Grey Cup champions.

Sports in brief

HOCKEY John Tavares and Evander Kane have graduated to the NHL, but new talent like Taylor Hall and Tyler Seguin will be battling for spots on Canada's world junior hockey team. They were among 36 players invited yesterday to a selection camp for the Canadian team that will compete at the world junior tournament beginning Dec. 26 in Saskatoon and Regina.

NHL The Montreal Canadiens dealt centre Kyle Chipchura to the Anaheim Ducks yesterday in exchange for a fourth-round draft pick in 2011. Chipchura, a first-round pick of the Canadiens in 2004, has been held pointless in 19 games this season.

SOCCER U.S. bidders are planning to tell FIFA it can set World Cup attendance records if they gain the right to host the tournament in 2018 or 2022. Organizers will set a sales target of five million tickets tomorrow when soccer's governing body introduces the 10 candidates at a media session ahead of the draw for next year's tournament.

SOCCER FIFA rejected the use of extra match officials at next year's World Cup yesterday despite the uproar over Thierry Henry's handball that helped France qualify at the expense of Ireland. FIFA president Sepp Blatter said there will be no change at the World Cup from June 11 to July 11, but there are further plans to introduce more match officials or technology at a later stage.

BASEBALL Get ready for more post-season baseball games — and fewer days off. Players would like to see the first round of playoffs expand to best-of-seven when their next labour contract starts in 2012, Michael Weiner said yesterday in his first news conference since replacing Donald Fehr as the union head.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Man U tops Arsenal

Manchester City scored three second-half goals yesterday for a 3-0 win over Arsenal and a meeting with defending champion Manchester United in the League Cup semifinals. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Hawks destroy Raps

NBA

Raptors 115 Hawks 146

AT

Al Horford had 24 points to lead nine scorers in double figures and the Atlanta Hawks enjoyed their best offensive night in 16 years to beat the slumping Toronto Raptors 146-115 last night.

Toronto's Chris Bosh, the NBA's No. 7 scorer at 25.2 points per game, had a season-low two points in only 16 minutes. Bosh sat out much of the first half with foul trouble and most of the second half after the Hawks led by more than 20 points. DeMar DeRozan had 21 points and Marco Belinelli added 16 for Toronto. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

GREGORY SMITH/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Atlanta Hawks forward Josh Smith takes a shot over Toronto Raptors centre Andrea Bargnani last night in Atlanta.

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Tonight, the AFC East travels north.

Terrell Owens & the Bills take to the Rogers Centre turf against their bitter AFC rivals, led by rookie QB Mark Sanchez.

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HOLIDAY

Shopping Guide

SPECIAL FEATURES EDITOR: STEPHANIE.BOMBA@METRONEWS.CA

Gift rapt

From sweet treats to gifts for your kids, our 14-page Holiday Shopping Guide brings you all the ideas you need.

Next week's lineup

GIFT GUIDES For a roundup of DVDs, gifts for him and her, and much more, pick up Metro's next Holiday Shopping Guide Dec. 10.

Tech Pg 35

Our MP3-related picks will have them singing a merry tune.

Music Pgs 36-37

We bring you the soundtracks to a harmonious holiday.

22 shopping days — including today! — remain before Christmas.

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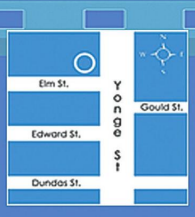

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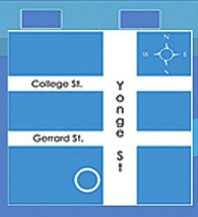

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Holiday Shopping Guide

Merry mauve

Cotton necklace, $32, by Foxy Originals. Available in purple/grey (pictured), pink/turquoise, and brown/yellow. For more, go to foxyoriginals.com.

Pebble necklace, $48, by Foxy Originals. Available in purple (pictured), blue and black. For more, go to foxyoriginals.com.

Purple sleeveless dress with rosette detail, $275, at select Melanie Lyne stores. For more, go to melanie-lyne.com or call 1-877-973-6090.

Satin tie neck dress, $34.50, at Old Navy. For more, go to old-navy.ca.

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swarovski.com

Euphoria eau de toilette spray by Calvin Klein, $68 for 50 mL or $89 for 100 mL. Available in department and drug stores across Canada. The larger size is only available in department stores. For more, go to coty.com.

Leather gloves, $85, at Banana Republic. For more, go to bananarepublic.ca.

Satin jewel clutch, $110, at Banana Republic. For more, go to bananarepublic.ca.

Striped sweater booties, $22.50, at Old Navy. For more, go to oldnavy.ca.

GOSH Mystery Night nail lacquer, $6 each, available at Shoppers Drug Mart. For more, go to shoppersdrugmart.ca.

Berry merry purple shoes by Jessica, $49.99, at Sears. For more, go to sears.ca.

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Get your music on

These MP3-related gifts will keep the beat going

RAFAEL BRUSILOW
for Metro Canada

The Sirius Stiletto 2 satellite radio, below, streams music from more than 120 channels.

You love having your music at your fingertips' reach, so here are some of Metro's picks for MP3-related gizmos that will keep the beat going this holiday season:

Sirius Stiletto 2 satellite radio & MP3 player
$299.95 + subscription fee

Combining the portable practicality of an MP3 player with the vast possibilities of satellite radio, the Sirius Stiletto 2 is one heck of a cool gadget. The small and sleek player streams music from more than 120 commercial-free music channels broadcast by Sirius' satellites and can even record up to 100 hours of content so you can listen to your favourite channel or commentator when you have time (or aren't in the office when the censor-free commentary starts to fly). The Stiletto also plays MP3s and WMA files so you can keep your music collection with you for those times you just have to hear We Are The Champions one more time. An optional home and car dock can be picked up for the player as well. For people already subscribed to Sirius, the Stiletto 2 is a no-brainer and for the rest, it makes a very solid case for jumping on the bandwagon.

Nokia 5800 XpressMusic Smartphone & MP3 player
$199.99 on select three-year plans with Rogers

While it's technically a phone first, the Nokia 5800 XpressMusic is so well geared towards playing music that it outshines a large number of MP3-only players on the market. The built-in stereo speakers that provide surprisingly good — and loud — external sound should be the first tip-off that this gadget is a lot more than your average MP3-capable phone. The 5800 features a touch screen and memory capacity for MicroSD cards up to 16 gigabytes in size, plenty of space to load up on your favourite songs. Nokia has purportedly shipped almost 10 million of these things in the year since it came out and with good reason — it's a great music player with unique appeal that still works as a solid phone.

These Panasonic Ergofit Noise Isolating Earbuds are available in three sizes and come in a variety of colours, including blue, green and purple.

Panasonic Ergofit Noise Isolating Earbuds
$29.99

Earbud headphones are one of the hardest components to get right because fit, sound quality and price always seem to trample over each other along the way. That's what makes the Panasonic Ergofit Noise Isolating Earbuds such a standout — they manage to hit all three points very effectively. Available in three sizes (S, M, L) for varied ear shapes and in a requisite variety of colours, the Ergofit buds are also attached to a practical tangle-free cord slider. Panasonic touts the buds as providing high-quality sound performance due to "virtual cavity technology," something that's probably not nearly as vulgar as it sounds. While there are plenty of good-quality buds that are expensive, and many bad-quality ones on the cheap, these little guys are, for once, the right quality at the right price.

The Pioneer iPod Digital Video System is $499, while the Nokia 5800 XpressMusic Smartphone and MP3 Player, below left, is $199.99.

Pioneer iPod Digital Video System
$499

Not for the weak of wallet or faint of heart, Pioneer's powerful iPod docking station is the iPod dock to end all other iPod docks. While it's certainly not cheap, this high-end offering will let you go beyond simply pumping up the volume on your iPod's music playback by turning your iPod into the primary entertainment device in your home. Besides the great sound quality from the 2.1 channel full range speaker system with subwoofer, the station can also be connected to an LCD or Plasma TV to share movies and photos stored on your iPod. You can even transmit music to the station wirelessly from your iPod as well, meaning you can play DJ from any room in your home. Pioneer has a great reputation for sound quality and the iPod Digital Video System does not disappoint.

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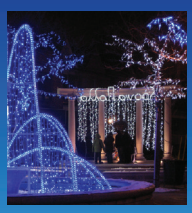

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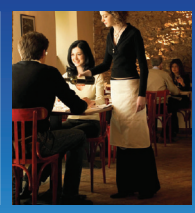

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A CanCon Christmas

This year, a typically star-studded slate of artists has released Christmas albums, with discs from Bob Dylan, Neil Diamond, Sugarland and David Archuleta. But who does the holiday season better than Canadians? Canadian Press music writer Nick Patch looks at this year's homegrown holiday music offerings.

JONATHAN HAYWARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Johnny Reid performs during the Canadian Country Music Awards in Vancouver in September. With Reid's gravelly croon, he seems a natural to belt out some gathered-round-the-fire Christmas tunes.

Johnny Reid, Christmas: With Johnny Reid's gravelly croon, he seems a natural to belt out some gathered-round-the-fire Christmas tunes.

And indeed, Christmas showcases the Scotland-born, Toronto-raised country singer's slow-burn take on such well-worn holiday classics as I'll Be Home For Christmas and Little Drummer Boy.

But while some holiday CDs are best-suited for that torpid period after the family has tucked into a tryptophan-filled turkey, Reid's disc is considerably more lively.

He injects a bit of glam into a shuffling version of Jingle Bell Rock and howls through Chuck Berry's Run Run Rudolph, one of the disc's more inspired selections.

Mary's Boy Child — among the few overtly religious tunes on the disc — has a vaguely calypso feel and even Silent Night ambles along over a swift acoustic guitar rhythm (and it features a mandolin solo).

Two unmemorable original tunes are unlikely to evolve into holiday traditions, but the uptempo Waiting for Christmas to Come and Christmas Time Again do further Reid's goal of creating a Christmas disc that doesn't feel as though it's been weighed down by a few glasses of eggnog.

Justin Hines, Season's Greetings:

It's nearly impossible for a Christmas CD to avoid both cheese and irony entirely, but that would seem to be the goal of Justin Hines' earthy Season's Greetings.

The arrangements are spare but fresh, with an organic, folky vibe that highlights the Newmarket, Ont., native's expressive voice.

Opening tune Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas establishes the disc's formula: Hines is accompanied only by a finger-picked acoustic guitar. The listener waits for the sweeping strings to creep in, but they never come.

Restraint isn't an adjective typically associated with holiday records, but the elegant production on Season's Greetings serves to draw attention to Hines' vocal talent while boosting the impact of the few instrumental flourishes that are employed.

The first verse of How I Love This Time — by far the best of three original compositions — offers a quaint vision of a neighbourhood stroll through a snow-covered winter landscape. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Holiday Shopping Guide

Jingles to make the holidays merry

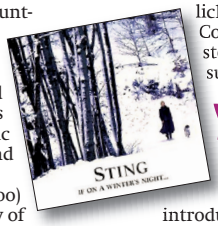
BRYAN BORZYKOWSKI
for Metro Canada

If you're one of the many Christmas-loving music fan out there, fall must be your favourite season of the year.

Besides many big-named artists putting out albums before the New Year, a sundry of Christmas and holiday discs also make their way into stores. Here's a list of some of the best holiday records of 2009:

Sting
If On A Winter's Night

A word of warning: Sting's winter-themed record isn't meant for your Christmas Eve gathering with the family. There are no sunny holiday tunes, or cuddle-by-the-file ballads — instead it's a very serious song set of eerie lullabies and carols from the British Isles. The tunes are filled with haunting strings — violins, harps and mandolins — Gaelic words (and English ones too) and plenty of hymnal arrangements. It's engaging, thought provoking and, may be the most interesting holiday disc of the bunch.



Bob Dylan:
Christmas in the Heart

When most people found out Bob Dylan was tackling a Christmas album, the shock was palatable. After all, he's a legendary folk singer who's linked more with 60s protesters than Santa's elves. But the disc is actually quite good. Sure, it's definitely strange — Little Drummer Boy doesn't have the same elegance when Dylan's gravely voice gets a hold of it — but how awesome is it to hear this legend sing a rollicking version of Here Comes Santa Claus? A stocking stuffer for sure.

Various Artists
A Very Special Christmas 7

A Very Special Christmas was first introduced 22 years ago and it's still going strong. Its seventh version will appeal to the youngsters in your family — tween-oriented superstars like Miley Cyrus, Ashley Tisdale and Vanessa Hudgens all contribute to the disc. While some performers may be a bit surprising, i.e. Gossip Girl's Leighton Meester, the songs are all familiar. Sean Kingston's Little Drummer Boy, Cyrus' Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree and Carrie Underwood's Hark! The Herald Angels Sing are standouts.

Jackson 5
Ultimate Christmas Collection

It's no surprise that the Jackson clan wants to continue selling records in the wake of Michael's death. Fortunately, this isn't just a quickly culled together disc. It was originally released in the '70s and features funky versions of a number of Christmas classics. The soulful take on Santa Claus is Coming to Town is especially memorable, while the dance-ready rendition of Up in the Housetop should get your whole family gathering on their feet. Bonus tracks include the MJ tune Little Christmas Tree, season greetings from Michael, Tito, Jermaine and Jackie and other stripped down remixes.

Beach Boys
Christmas Harmonies

The Beach Boys are best known for their fun in the sun, but with their rich harmonies and penchant for sleigh bells, it's a wonder they weren't a winter band. This release combines two of their holiday discs — The Beach Boys' Christmas Album and Merry Chrsitmas from the Beach Boys. There are standards here — Santa Claus is Coming to Town, I'll be Home for Christmas — but there's plenty of original tracks as well. The warm Little Saint Nick is probably their most famous.

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Holiday Shopping Guide

Season's eatings

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Retro candy, $4.99-$6.99 each, at HomeSense. For more, 1-866-466-3707 or visit homesense.ca.

Gingerbread cookies, $25 for 6, or $35 for 6 and wrapped with a Monkeybiz ornament. Available at Eat My Words, eatmywords.org. Proceeds go to the Stephen Lewis Foundation.

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Holiday Shopping Guide

Good cheer

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Red Mosaic Cocktail Shaker, $29.95, and **Red Mosaic Champagne Bucket,** $36.95, at Pier 1 Imports. For more, go to pier1.ca.

Wolf Blass Yellow Label Cabernet Sauvignon, $16.45 SRP (for 750 mL). Available at liquor stores across Canada. For more, go to wolfblass.com.

Cocktail mixers, $7.99 each, at HomeSense. For more, call 1-866-466-3707 or visit homesense.ca

Veuve Clicquot La Grande Dame, $238.95 SRP, left, and **Veuve Clicquot Ice Jacket,** $64.95 SRP. Available at participating stores across Canada.

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Holiday Shopping Guide

Creating a craze

When Lori Fowlkes first saw robotic Zhu Zhu Pets toy hamsters in September, she remembers her kids started jumping up and down and saying "Please! Please! Can we buy them?"

Seeing a fully stocked shelf, she decided to hold off until Christmas.

That was "before I knew that the hamsters would soon be off the shelves and more scarce than an H1N1 vaccine," said Fowlkes, 32.

Now she can't find them anywhere.

Zhu Zhu Pets, which retail for about $10, are this year's bona fide must-have toy, following in the footsteps of past crazes for **Tickle Me Elmo** and **Cabbage Patch Kids**. On resale websites like eBay and Craigslist, they fetch $40 or more. Vital accessories such as the hamster car and funhouse are sold separately. By many counts, the toy is an unlikely hit. They're in a field crowded with toy pets. The hamsters, which scurry around, make noises and drive cars, don't always work the way you expect and have a limited range of action.

"Honestly, I don't really get it," said BMO Capital Markets analyst Gerrick Johnson. "But I don't need to get it for a toy to be hot."

They have one big thing going for them in tough economic times: They're cheap, Johnson said

"The last couple of years the robotic pet has been very popular, but those have been very expensive," like Hasbro's $250 robotic dinosaur **Kota the Triceratops**, he said. "But here's a version of a robotic pet that only costs $10."

Zhu Zhu Pets, aimed at three- to 10-year-olds, have rushed in to fill the void. But unlike past "It" toys made by large manufacturers like Mattel's **Tickle Me Elmo** and **Tiger Electronic's Furby**, **Zhu Zhu Pets** are made by tiny Cepia Inc. of St. Louis, with just 16 employees in the U.S. and 30 in China, making their success even more unlikely.

Zhu Zhu Pets retail for about $10 and have quickly become this year's must have Christmas gift. Retailers are scratching their heads at how it happened while parents are getting creative in the hunt.

Creation of a craze

Just six years old, Cepia previously worked on an electronic dispensing device for consumer products before turning to toys and its only other product, a line of light-up bears called **Glo-E Bears**.

The company was started by toy industry vet Russ Hornsby, 56.

The success of **Zhu Zhu Pets** wasn't entirely accidental. The company got the word out with a savvy mix of local cable ads and parties thrown by "mommy bloggers."

Hornsby said he was hoping to sell three to four pets per store per week, but was secretly hoping for eight. The result, Hornsby said, was exponentially higher, though he wouldn't say how much.

"The rate was so astonishing everybody had to go back and pinch themselves," Hornsby said. Toys "R" Us pulled all of the test data to make sure it wasn't being manipulated, Hornsby said.

Keeping up with demand

For parents, the hamster hunt is intense. A Facebook fan site tracks parent's search for the toys. Hornsby said he got a call at on his cellphone from a mom asking for hamsters.

"They're calling because they're upset and they feel we're not doing a good enough job getting merchandise on the shelves," Hornsby said.

But with retailers being extra cautious with orders this year following the dismal holiday season last year, the maker has had to scramble to make enough to catch up to demand.

Toy analyst Jim Silver at Timetoplaymag.com said it was late fall by the time Cepia and retailers realized how popular the toys were, and by that time it was difficult to increase production.

"You can't just go to China and flip a switch," he said. But in the past three months, the company has added three more factories in China.

"Retailers are airlifting in millions of products," Hornsby said.

Even if the product remains impossible to find for the holidays, the craze sets Cepia up for a strong 2010. Hornsby estimates the company will sell $100 million in Zhu Zhu Pets by the end of the year.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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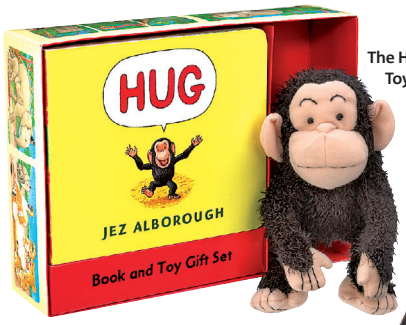
Secret Santa
Mr. Potato Head Santa Spud, $9.99, comes with a hat, shoes, and a beard with lips. Available at major retailers. Go to hasbro.com for more. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Toddler toys



The Hug Book and Toy Set, $9.99 at Winners. For more, call 1-877-946-6877 or visit winners.ca.

Playskool Step Start Walk 'N Ride, $34.99, is a walker that converts to a ride-on toy.

Blocksters Blockimals, $19.99, features a farm or jungle animal inside. Available at major retailers across Canada, including Walmart, Zellers and Toys R Us.

Zipfy mini luge, $39.95, comes in in green, pink, and blue. Available at Indigo and Chapters stores nationally. For more, go to chapters.indigo.ca.

Apple Grove Pals storybooks, $9.99-$34.99, come with an assortment of pals. For more, go to little-tikes.com.

Puzzle Block Set, $9.99 at HomeSense. For more, call 1-866-466-3707 or visit homesense.ca.

Chuck My Talking Truck, $44.99, is a preschool boy's best buddy — he always has something to say, such as, "We've got work to do!" Available at Walmart, Zellers and Toys R Us.

Wooden Toy Chest, $49.99, at HomeSense. For more, call 1-866-466-3707 or visit homesense.ca.

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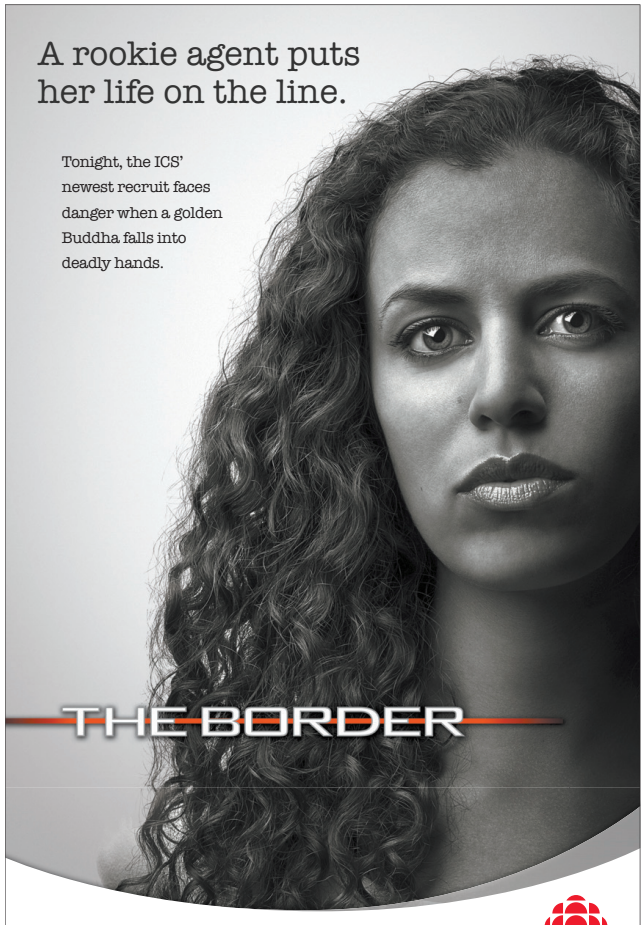

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Holiday Shopping Guide

Glad tidings

Nostalgia retro popcorn machine, $59.99. Available at Home Outfitters. Go to homeoutfitters.com for more.

Cookie press, $42, comes with 10 metal disks. Call 1-800-266-5562 or go to pamperedchef.com for more.

Silicone pepper mill, $29.99 and $39.99, by McEwan by Fresco. Comes in black, white or aubergine. Available at Sears. Go to sears.ca for more.

Snowflake or holiday pancake pan, $29.99 each, by Nordicware. Available at Home Outfitters. Go to homeoutfitters.com for more.

Christmas Cookie Exchange Tray, $14.99 at Hallmark, hallmark.ca.

Musical Snowman Cookie Spatula, $9.99. Spatula plays We Wish You A Merry Christmas. Available at Hallmark, hallmark.ca.

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Parkway Mall – Victoria Park & Ellesmere
Markville Mall – Lower level by Sears
Bramalea City Centre – Upper level by Sears
store closing sale also available at
Lawrence Square – Allen Express way & Lawrence
KAZ MENSWEAR – North York Sheridan Mall Jane & Wilson

Stocking stuffer
This Father Frost Soap, which is great for vegans too, is $7.95 per 100g. Available at LUSH, 1-866-644-5874, lush.ca. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Holiday Shopping Guide

Creature comforts

Powermat Home & Office Mat, $99.99; and **Powermat Travel Mat,** $99.99, both by The Sharper Image. Works wirelessly to charge three to six devices — such as an iPod, Blackberry or handheld game — depending on the model. Available at The Source, Future Shop, Best Buy and London Drugs.

Equip iPod Docking Station, $64.99, at Shoppers Drug Mart. For more, go to shoppersdrug mart.ca.

ObusForme Performance Driver's Seat Cushion, $79.99, features back support technology that conforms to your back's natural curvature, as well as eight massage motors and a seat heater. Available at Canadian Tire, canadiantire.ca.

Thule Seat Organizer, $17.99, keeps everything within reach. Available at Canadian Tire, canadian tire.ca.

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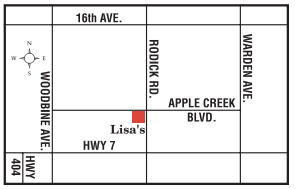

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Holiday Shopping Guide

Kicking off the cuts

Canadian retailers are getting ready for the holiday season with rock-bottom prices and major promotional campaigns in hopes that shoppers will open their wallets and seize the opportunity to save.

Both U.S.-based retailing giant Wal-Mart and Sears Canada have unveiled campaigns centred around lower prices, particularly on bigger ticket items like iPods, LCD televisions, Blu-Ray players and cooking sets.

The price cuts come at a time when Canadians are not exactly in a mood to part with their cash — a recent consumer confidence study from research firm TNS suggests an increasing number of gift buyers are planning to put off major purchases.

The report indicates consumers are expected to tighten their spending habits to the lowest levels in four years, with about one-third of those surveyed expecting to spend less on gifts and other purchases during the holidays than last year.

Those weaker expectations have persisted throughout the industry in recent months, with many retailers complaining that sales have remained stagnant since the startup of holiday shopping weeks ago.

Among those considering price cuts, supermarket giant Loblaw said earlier this week that it's slashing prices, and could cut them even further, as it attempts to ramp up its competitive position in the marketplace.

Meanwhile, Wal-Mart says it will cut the prices of more than 18,000 items this month, which it says amounts to 20 per cent more cuts than at the same time last year.

"We know this has been a tough year for Canadians, so we have made every effort to drop our prices and help Canadians make their dollars go farther this holiday season," said David Cheesewright, the president and CEO of the retail giant's Canadian operations.

"In every department in our stores — from electronics to toys to housewares to food — we offer everyday low prices as well as special holiday pricing."

Discounted items include a **Samsung home theatre DVD and sound system** for $296, about $100 off the previous price, and a **Rachel Ray stainless steel cookware set** for $169.97, about $60 lower than the original price.

Sears Canada has launched a Boxing Day prices campaign that will include reductions on several items for three days this weekend, while some stores will stay open for extended hours.

A **Panasonic Viera 42-inch Plasma TV** will sell for $979.99, a savings of $220, while Sears will offer a **Craftsman Electric Snowblower** for $299.99, taking $200 off the regular price.

On Wednesday, Sears Canada reported third-quarter net earnings of $47.1 million, down from a year-ago profit of $59.3 million, sending its shares to close five per cent higher to $24.45 on the Toronto stock market.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Kindle retails for about $330.

High-tech not high priced

GIFTS There's good news for holiday shoppers who have spent previous years waiting in hours-long lineups, making frantic calls to stores, and being extorted by profiteering gadget scalpers while searching for that must-have gift.

It appears there is no **Nintendo Wii** or **Wii Fit**, limited supply **iPhone**, or other tech toys this year that are expected to be overwhelmingly in demand and impossible to find in stores.

The most buzzed about tech product this shopping season may be the **Kindle ebook reader**, but Amazon says it doesn't expect to run out of stock.

Maybe demand is down because of the recession, or maybe it's the fact that today's massive big-box stores are lined with dozens of rows of gadgets, games, peripherals and electronics, offering endless options for shoppers in virtually every price range.

According to research commissioned by Future Shop, if consumers could choose the thing they'd most like to receive this holiday season, they'd pick a big-screen HDTV.

A new TV is probably too rich for the blood of most shoppers, but Future Shop spokesman Elliott Chun said Canadians have indicated in the past that they're willing to spend several hundred dollars for a cool gift.

The company is expecting that the cheapest version of **Sony's Playstation 3**, the 120-gigabyte slim model selling for $299, will be one of the hottest items this Christmas, despite its "mid-range" price.

"I don't think people will balk too much at that price point," Chun said, nothing that in a survey last year, Canadians said they were planning to spend about $279 on a high-tech gift, while men specifically were willing to spend a little more, around $340.

Derek Szeto of Redflagdeals.com, a deal-hunting web community with 270,000 members, suggests netbooks may be one of the hottest gift ideas for someone looking to spend a couple hundred dollars or more. The popularity of the low-cost, low-weight laptop computers has exploded in recent months, especially as models began appearing on store shelves with prices as low $199.

"The price points have gotten sort of ridiculously low, it just makes it really easy for consumers to make it an impulse purchase," Szeto said. "It's almost like if you drop it and break it you can just replace it."

In the sub-$100 price range, Future Shop is expecting video games and Blu-ray movies will be big sellers, especially for households that just recently upgraded to the new video format from DVD. Recent legislation in Ontario banning the use of cellphones while driving are also expected to spur sales of hands-free devices like Bluetooth headsets. Szeto predicted shoppers will still spend a lot of money this year but will look for ways to stretch their dollar.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Playstation 3 is retailing for just $299.

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Rates may vary by province; check RateSupermarket.ca for the best rates in your area.

RateSupermarket.ca Canada's rate comparison website

Metro Homes

Canadian Pride

Show some Canadian pride and hang a knitted buffalo check elk-embossed ornament on your tree this year. Wal-Mart, $2.96, walmart.ca.

EMMA YARDLEY/FOR METRO CANADA

EDITOR: DOUGLAS.DUNLOP@METRONEWS.CA

5-year variable mortgage rates PROVIDED BY RATESUPERMARKET.CA

BMO	CIBC	HSBC	ICICI	ING	RBC	Scotia	TD	Broker
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Non-traditional colours can be just as festive as red and green while adding a modern touch. Sears, 2.5" ribbon, $6.99; ornaments, $7.99 for a two-pack of 90-mm balls; and $12.99 for a six-pack of 75-mm balls, sears.ca.

Homes in **Style**

Stock up on **stockings**

EMMA YARDLEY
for Metro Canada

Knitted, stitched, beaded and glittered, this year hanging your stockings with care has never looked so pretty.

"Stockings are becoming nicer and nicer and more important to Christmas decor people are into decorating their homes (for the holidays) more than ever," says Ann Marie Favot, design editor for Style at Home. "From glitzy glam to more traditional red and white versions … with so many different types available, they can now match anybody's decor."

Stockings bring an important decorative element to a room, whether they're hung down the staircase banister or in a row along the mantle piece.

"The most interesting way I've seen them displayed was on the backs of dining room chairs. That way on Christmas morning when everyone sits down for breakfast, they have their stockings right there."

1. Handcrafted from New Zealand wool, these playful felt stockings are fun and festive. Teatro Verde, $34.95, teatroverde.com. 2. Each knit stocking is nearly three feet long giving you ample present-stuffing space. Teatro Verde, $34.95, teatroverde.com. 3. A simple holiday message in simple holiday red and white. Indigo, $19.99, chapters.indigo.ca. 4. Put your peacock feathers on display with shimmering satin stockings in rich royal hues. Wal-Mart, $9.96, walmart.ca.

Bring the cottage to you this Christmas. Log cabin ornaments, $14.95, Teatro Verde, teatroverde.com.

Don't forget about the tree!

Sorting through the boxes of Christmas tree decorations every year is like taking a Christmas Carol trip through Christmases past.

"My favourite part of decorating the tree is the reminiscing that happens as we unwrap each ornament and recall the story behind it (and) what happened that Christmas," says Austen Gilliland, editor of Make+Do, Canadian Living magazine's crafts blog.

– EMMA YARDLEY

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Never want to leave
"There are classic elements but there's also a certain level of youthfulness to it that just feels well kept. I want people to feel like they never want to leave it," Anna Simone on VU condominium by Aspen Ridge. RAFAEL BRUSILOW/FOR METRO CANADA

Seen here are some shots from VU condominiums.

VU's understated power

RAFAEL BRUSILOW
for Metro Canada

The brilliant power of light shines bright at VU, creating a sense of connectedness and continuity.

Located at the northeast corner of Jarvis and Adelaide streets, VU's new model townhome shows off just how much can be accomplished with light itself as your guide.

Anna Simone of Cecconi Simone Interior Designs used light to create a strong sense of connection between all parts of the luxurious two-storey model suite which features hardwood floors and custom furniture.

"Sightlines were really important — no matter where you are in the space you feel connected not only to the other areas in the suite but to the outdoors as well. There's always natural light that's penetrating to every part of the space so that one room can relate to another," Simone said.

Seen here are some shots from VU condominiums.

Use of transparency throughout the suite, exemplified by elements like the glass railing on the staircase and the wire sculptures on the coffee table, accentuates the effects of light by creating vibrant new shadows and a sense of holistic harmony. Rather than large splashes of vibrant colour, Simone went with a rich selection of grey, white and black tones to create a unifying effect throughout the suite. It's all a part of a deliberate design choice to create a look that uses tonality and shadow to create an active look instead of relying on static colour.

"Colour is beautiful but paint is solid, there's no movement in it. What we did was to create textures with light. Light gives you that softness — how you focus it affects how the space appears. Light creates a magnificent energy that otherwise wouldn't be there," Simone said.

Clean lines and plenty of reflective surfaces abound, emphasizing the neutral look through elements as subtle as the ceramic dinnerware.

"It's about showing understated elegance in a way that is actually quite masculine. There's a sense of strength that has strong lines and is very neutral in its tonalities," Simone said.

While Simone avoided ultra-modern elements in the design, the mix of classic elegance and modern panache creates a youthful feel in the space.

Suite Talk

The lowdown

- VU by Aspen Ridge Homes
- vuliving.ca
- Available now
- Sizes & Pricing: Townhomes range in size from 1,385 to 1,780 square feet and are priced from $555,990

Disorganized office, disorganized life

HomeScape

Do you find yourself forgetting appointments, missing deadlines and losing contact information? Do you frequently spend time looking for files and important papers?

Let's be brutally honest here. Could it be because your office and papers are disgracefully disorganized? Could it be because you avoid filing like the plague? Could it be that your information management system is just not functional?

Well, don't despair. It's not you (that's what I tell myself anyway), it's your information storage methods that are the problem, and these can be fixed.

Essentially, what you need is a place for everything, and everything in its place. And this applies whether you file paper or electronically, or a combination of both.

There are several important elements you must have in your work. One that is absolutely necessary is a working and accessible schedule. Use it as soon as you make the appointment or set the deadline, and consult it several times a day.

In many businesses, another important requirement is for quick access to contact information. Have an accessible card filing system in place to store business cards, and make a point of promptly entering important contacts into mobile phones.

Finally, you must also file or put away working or completed files, so you can find them quickly. That is, after all, why you file.

Here are some additional tips to help keep your business running smoothly:

- Keep notes in one place, either on a pad by the phone or in an electronic file.
- Use a master to-do list every day.
- Keep things that you use frequently close-by, and things you need less often on higher shelves.
- Label files, and consider labeling the inside of drawers and shelves. Then, follow your rules and store things appropriately.
- If you keep electronic files, back up regularly.
- Ensure you have enough space for all required storage.

A clean office is within reach.

Sylvia Putz is a journalist with an interest in decor and design. She's written for the TV show Arresting Design; sputz@arrestingdesign.com.

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Style

Fashion fix-it kit

Avert fashion disasters at any black tie affair with My Tagalongs' Little Black Distress Kit. It contains two sponges for removing deodorant stains, one pair of stay-up stockings, a set of four on-the-go, individually-wrapped wipes: makeup, nail, deodorant, personal care and a pair of foot cushions to help her put her best foot forward. The LBD Kit retails for $25 and is available on mytagalongs.com at the Bay and specialty boutiques across Canada. METRO NEWS SERVICE

EDITOR: ANN-MARIE.COLACINO@METRONEWS.CA

Pretty party frocks

Go colourful, shimmery & short this holiday season

JANINE FALCON
for Metro Canada

Strapless, draped or tunic, at the knee or shorter, pretty party frocks claim the after-five spotlight this holiday season.

Colour makes a bold festive statement. Vibrant shades of pink, purple, red, orange and yellow are cheerful antidotes to corporate dressing as well as early nightfall. "At the moment there's no hotter colour than blue," notes fashion stylist Afiya Francisco (TheStyleHouse.ca), who appears regularly on Breakfast Television and CityLine to talk chic. "Stella McCartney, Balmain and Ungaro all showed different shades of this hue."

Rich fabrics such as velvet and brocade are event appropriate, as well as shimmering silky textures. Sequins in particular are enjoying quite the renaissance — nothing says shindig more than sparkle and shine. And of course the trusty little black dress is still a staple, but it's about more than basic black — amp up the style with architectural details such as artful and unusual pleating and draping, says Francisco.

Styling Tips

Cocktail attire this season is undeniably feminine – but not dainty. Anchor flirty dresses with shoes of consequence — ankle booties, platform pumps or strappy platform sandals — to keep the look modern. Big, statement jewelry also adds impact, especially if you opt for an LBD rather than a jewel-toned ensemble.

Keep proportions in mind when it comes to the right fit. Bustier cuts add curve appeal to small frames; v-necklines, wrap waists, shoulder straps and one-shoulder styles complement the more generously endowed. Emphasize the smallest part of your torso, and go for hems that hit the knees or just above, adds Francisco.

Read more on page 50 »

Left: Blue strapless cocktail dress (H&M, $59.95).

Below: Moonscape dress (French Connection $198).

Black sleeveless ruffle front dress (Jacob, $89).

Blue is hot this holiday season

Blue jersey bubble dress (Dynamite, $32.90).

Right: One shoulder red dress with brooch, $149.95; gem cuff, $75; fringe earrings, $39.95. Available at Le Chateau stores across Canada.

Magenta sleeveless v-neck short taffeta dress, $235; loop earrings with faceted beads, $24; fireball stretch ring, $18. Items available at select Melanie Lyne stores. Call 1-877-973-6090 or visit melanielyne.com

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Dressing for every occasion

Men: Focus on classic looks, says designer

BRIAN COLLUTON
for Metro Canada

Sir, please step away from that same (untucked) striped shirt and pair of jeans you rolled into last year's holiday party wearing.

Not only was that look never really in style (sorry), but with a continued focus on classic looks this winter, "if you look good, then you'll get laid!" laughs Melissa Austria, founder of Toronto lifestyle store GotStyle Menswear.

Seriously, though, in an unceasingly image-conscious society, Austria asks, "If it only takes a little bit more of an effort, why wouldn't you try to look a little bit better?" But to be the toast under the mistletoe, you don't need to blow your whole holiday bonus (if such a thing still exists). For holiday season soirées, Austria recommends two key closet additions: a white, slim-fit, French cuff shirt and a tuxedo jacket.

Remember, when choosing an accent colour, Austria says purple is the new pink. But if these tools don't finish the job themselves, here's her environment-specific advice:

Work Parties

"When you dress too casual for a work function, it sends off the wrong message," says Austria, "Because your boss is still going to be there, you still want to have a bit of formality." A suit or blazer combination is a must, she says, tie optional.

Purple is the new pink when it comes to accent colours this season. Pictured: Harry Rosen purple dress shirt, $265.

Family Functions

Since you're around the people who know you best, Austria encourages striking a balance between casual and smart. "A sweater and shirt combination is a nice look," she says, "You can still dress up a sweater and shirt by putting a knit tie with it."

Social Festivities

"You want to be a little funkier, in a sense, because you never know what friends are going to be there and you might meet somebody new," says Austria. She suggests a simple collared shirt and vest for comfort with style.

Office: Cinque suit $595, Maison St Pierre dress shirt $175. **Family:** Full Circle pants $250, Nanibon sweater $325. **Friends:** J. Fedders white shirt $125, Haight & Ashbury vest $95, knit tie $65, jeans $165. All looks styled by GotStyle Menswear, located at 489 King St. W. (gsmen.com).

Dazzling babbles

Continued from page 48 ››

Accessories

Just like the season's dresses, its accessories are all about colour, sparkle and statement details. Embellished shoes and evening bags are everywhere, and according to Francisco, jewelry is huge. "Bold, oversize, chunky is the way to go — earrings, necklaces, cuffs and bracelets, just not all at once" she says. "Industrialized metals are also particularly relevant."

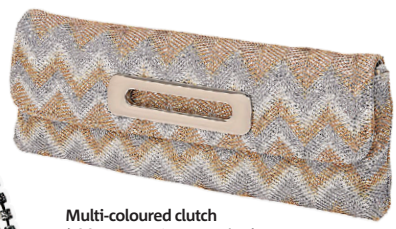
Try bold earrings and a bejewelled clutch with a vibrant dress — even a sequined one — or an in-your-face necklace and sparkle shoes if you're wearing black. Do wear a watch with more than one bangle, and on the other hand snag attention with your most fabulous cocktail ring.

JANINE FALCON/
FOR METRO CANADA

Chandelier earrings (Banana Republic, $50).

Sequined clutch (aldoaccessories.com, $30).

Pearl cuff, $28, rhinestone and pearl necklace, $38. Available at Jacob.



Multi-coloured clutch (aldoaccessories.com , $50).

Statement ring from Aldo made with crystallized Swarovski elements ($60, aldo accessories.com).

Dimpled Bracelet Cuff (Forever 21, $4.80).

Swatch Dapper queen watch (Swatch boutiques or Swatch.com, $135).

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SPECIAL FOCUS ON:
Holiday Party Wear

Rykiel goes lacey for H&M

KENYA HUNT
Metro World News

The colours pink and black aren't typically associated with the holiday season. But you won't be able to escape them this month, when the Sonia Rykiel for H&M line hits stores.

The pretty, feminine collection, which was largely designed by Rykiel's daughter Nathalie, includes delicate slips, nightgowns and camisoles, with a dose of the Rykiel brand's trademark cheekiness. It's the first time a guest designer has created a lingerie line for the brand.

Later in 2010, the Rykiel partnership will continue with a knitwear collection and children's line. But first, there is the business of lacy, little night things to tend to.

"I thought about what I would like to wear. I wanted it to be sophisticated, lingerie that would appeal to all types of women. There's no age target. It's just really sexy," explains Nathalie. "I especially love the satin series that we did, which is a bit '30s. It's all very coquettish, but very sophisticated as well."

In addition to select H&M stores, the lingerie collection will be available at Sonia Rykiel stores.

Toronto locations

- The Sonia Rykiel for H&M lingerie line debuts in 1,500 H&M stores worldwide on Saturday. It will be available at the Eaton Centre, Yorkdale and Bloor Street locations.

The Sonia Rykiel for H&M lingerie collection debuts this Saturday.

Sculptz Shapewear shaper top shorts, $30-$33, come in small to XXL sizes.

Streamline your outfit with shorts

UNDERGARMENTS Your party dress is the perfect fit... all you need is just a little lift here and a little tuck there. Get that streamline look without the discomfort of the yesteryear's girdle garments with Sculptz Shapewear's shaper top shorts ($30 to $33).

Launched in Canada at LG Fashion Week this past October, the brand focuses on comfortable shape wear that is designed to accent curves, slim down the tummy, hips and thigh areas and lift the butt.

The shorts, made of 75 per cent nylon and 25 per cent spandex, will also eliminate panty lines — offering a sleek and smooth silhouette under any evening wear fabric.

Like the line's leg wear, the shaper shorts come in various playful and chic shades, including hot pink, purple and orange (in addition to the standard black and nude).

Sculptz products are available in small to XXL sizes and are sold at select Sears and Addition Elle stores as well as online at Sculptz.ca.

METRO NEWS SERVICE

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Platform, Madden Girl ($55, at Town Shoes, townshoes.com)

Open toe, Aldo ($90, aldoshoes.com)

Satin heel, Bravo Browns ($118, brownssshoes.com)

Bow detail, Barbie by Town Shoes ($135, townshoes.com)

Open toe, Town Shoes ($110, townshoes.com)

Metalic heel, Spring ($50, myspringshoes.com)

STUDIO ANDRÉ DOYON

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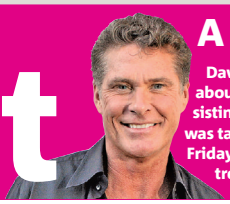
No sex on Lopez tape
Remember all those reports about a Jennifer Lopez sex tape? Well, it turns out it's just pretty much a tape, sans sex. On Tuesday, a judge ruled Lopez's ex-husband, Ojani Noa, cannot use personal footage he recorded of the couple in a "documentary" he's making. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Entertainment



A 'healthy' Hoff

David Hasselhoff has spoken out about his recent stay in hospital — insisting he's "happy and healthy." He was taken to a Los Angeles hospital on Friday and spent two days receiving treatment. METRO EWS SERVICES

EDITOR: DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

●●●●● A CLASSIC; ●●●● EXCELLENT; ●●● GOOD; ●● FAIR; ● POOR

Jacksoul's last is best

Late Haydain Neale put heart and soul into new album

Jacksoul

Album: SOULmate
Label: Sony Music
Rating: ●●●●

THESE TEN TRACKS were built around demo vocal tracks that Haydain Neale recorded shortly before a tragic 2007 traffic accident. Fortunately, Neale's near-perfect pitch and natural inclination to put heart and soul into every project, left us vocals as good as anything he had previously recorded. His voice has that old school sweetness we came to expect of classic singers like Smokey Robinson. Despite the terrible emotional circumstances under which the band completed this album, SOULmate is not a rush job. It contains all new Haydain Neale compositions, recorded with the same painstaking care that Jacksoul put into all four of its previous albums. Neale, who died just 10 days before SOULmate's release, has left us with an album that will go down as the band's best.

Graham Rockingham/for Metro Canada

SOULmate is the new album from R&B group Jacksoul. Frontman Haydain Neale, above, died in hospital 10 days before its release.

Allison Iraheta

Album: Just Like You
Label: Sony Music
Rating: ●●●

WELCOME TO CHAPTER three of this year's American Idol trilogy. We heard first the soon-to-be forgotten disc from winner Kris Allen, followed by the shock of a well-positioned wet one from the lips of Adam Lambert. Now it's the debut from irresistible No. 3 Idolist, Allison Iraheta. The Idol production and writing team — featuring once again the undeniable hit-making sensibilities of go-to guys like Max Martin and Kara Dioguardi — has decided to position the red-headed rocker into the role of hyper-active punk princess. That's never an easy path to follow since punk is an attitude and attitude is something almost impossible to manufacture without appearing plastic. It also seems to conflict with Iraheta's natural gift, the whiskey-aged voice of a classic roots rocker a la Melissa Etheridge. Still her considerable talents, will give Iraheta another shot to forge her own identity.

Graham Rockingham/for Metro Canada

AlbumReviews
music@metronews.ca

The Bravery

Album: Stir the Blood
Label: Island/Universal
Rating: ●●

THE BRAVERY ARE still around? Seriously? The band should have seen their last days when retro '80s turned into retro '90s, yet they continue to kick out Cure-like synth-heavy jams. The band was never that good in the first place, but at least they had trendiness on their side. Now, the group just sounds dated, while their epic electro rock is still mediocre. The only decent track is She's so Bendable, which wasn't even written by singer Sam Endicott. It's time to throw in the towel guys.

Bryan Borzykowski/for Metro Canada

R. Kelly

Album: Untitled
Label: Jive/Sony Music
Rating: ●●●

THERE'S ONE THING you need to know about R. Kelly: He loves sex. Here are just a smattering of the choice lyrics on his latest smooth R&B effort: "Girl you make me wanna get you pregnant," "I called your boss and he knows you ain't coming in today (sex in the morning, sex all day)," "Text me back something freaky," "Sex that we're having here girl, ohh, this is, this is number one." That's pretty much all you need to know about this disc.

Bryan Borzykowski/for Metro Canada

Entertainment in brief

CELEBS Four people accused of burglarizing celebrities' homes have pleaded not guilty. The group entered pleas Wednesday through their attorneys in a Los Angeles court. All four are charged with felony burglary counts. The suspects face seven counts of first-degree burglary for break-ins at the homes of stars including Lindsay Lohan, Paris Hilton, Orlando Bloom and Rachel Bilson. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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How Much Is Your Postal Code Costing You?

We've all heard that when it comes to real estate, the biggest driver of your success is location. Can the same be said for getting the lowest car insurance rate? The answer is – sort of. Insurance companies do use a wide variety of risk factors when setting premiums, and where you live is one of them. The question each insurance company tries to answer is "how likely is it a policyholder living in [insert location here] will make a claim and how much will that claim cost to pay out if there is a loss?" If you live in an area that a given insurance company knows to have a high claims rate, all things being equal, you can expect to pay more than someone living in an area with a lower claims rate.

Should I Consider Moving To Get A Better Rate?

Probably not. If you are like most people, picking up and moving to another neighbourhood in hopes of saving money on your car insurance is likely not an option. And the truth is, even if you did move, there's no guarantee you'd get a lower rate, since each insurance company sets its rates independently and can change them up to 4 times per year according to a wide variety of factors of which your location is only one.

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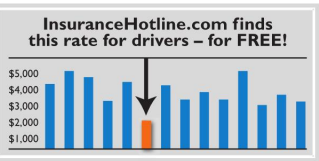

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Film explores Genius Within Glenn Gould

Genius Within: **The Inner Life of Glenn Gould**

Directors: Michele Hozer, Peter Raymont
Classification: STC
Rating: ⊕⊕⊕

STEVE GOW
for Metro Canada

Genius Within directors Peter Raymont and Michele Hozer.

REVIEW It seems like there's been a ton of documentaries made about pianist Glenn Gould since his premature death in 1982.

It's not like the Canadian virtuoso doesn't necessarily deserve it. In fact, his legacy — The Goldberg Variations — has made a lasting impression in classical music. If anything, Genius Within: The Inner Life of Glenn Gould aims to show just why the man has earned such attention.

But the truth is, this thorough straightforward study by filmmakers Michele Hozer and Peter Raymont attempts to extend beyond just Gould's musicianship and further explore how the mysterious eccentric fits into our psyche despite having died more than 25 years ago. Whether the film accomplishes said feat depends on the extent of education about Gould you already have.

With a stunning array of archival footage highlighted by personal anecdotes from close friends, former lovers and associates, the documentary does allow for an intimacy even if it doesn't necessarily break much new ground about the psychological genius within. Either way, it's still an honorable dedication to the man who helped forge the modern landscape of classical music in Canada and to be clear — there should always be room to celebrate that.

Now Playing

- Genius Within: The Inner Life of Glenn Gould opens today at The Royal, 7 p.m.

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And Sara makes three

Valerie Bertinelli and Nicole Sullivan are about to be in even better company as Eastwick star Sara Rue joins them as the newest spokesperson for Jenny Craig. The 31-year-old actress says she can't wait to start the program. **PEOPLE.COM**

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Woo crafts an epic in Red Cliff

PHIL BROWN
for Metro Canada

Action maestro John Woo became a cult favorite in the late '80s and early '90s for his balletic, slow-mo gun battles in such Hong Kong epics as Hard Boiled.

He soon moved to Hollywood to create blockbuster hits like Face/Off, but made a surprising return to Asia for his latest project Red Cliff.

For Woo, returning to China to make the $80 million US epic was both a homecoming and a means avoiding the headaches associated with Hollywood system.

"I felt much more relaxed about making the movie in China because we got so much support from the government," Woo told Metro. "Everything was very simple. I just walked into an office and said that I wanted to make a movie called Red Cliff and they said 'OK.' I didn't need to take notes from anyone. I just did my own work."

Red Cliff is a personal project for the director about an infamous battle in Chinese history in which a small army was able to defeat a massive navy fleet through careful strategy and ingenuity.

A scene from John Woo's film Red Cliff.

"I've wanted to make this movie for over 20 years," revealed Woo. "It's one of the most famous battles in Chinese history and an inspiring story, but one that has never been seen onscreen.

"I tried to make it 20 years ago, but they said we didn't have the budget or technology. Today we could finally do it and it was my chance to make an epic movie like Spartacus or Lawrence of Arabia, which I've always dreamed about."

Epic is definitely an appropriate word to describe Red Cliff, which features battle scenes with thousands of extras. It's a mammoth production that was a huge hit in Asia last year where it was released as a two-part, five-hour film. However, for North American audiences, it has been cut down to a single 2.5-hour movie. It's an odd choice, but one that Woo insists was always part of his plan. "The Asian version is a lot longer because those audiences are so familiar with the story that we could spend more time developing the characters," explained Woo.

Red Cliff opens in theatres tomorrow

"However, since Western audiences are not as familiar with the history, we decided to focus on the main storyline. It's still the same movie. This version may have lost some scenes, but the spirit is the same."

Although the director's films are typically quite violent, the action is staged with such care and creativity that it feels almost like watching a musical number.

It's a comparison that Woo is certainly conscious of, "When I choreograph action sequences I usually look at musicals as a reference and design and shoot those scenes to music. It's like creating a dance sequence and one day I hope to make real musical."

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Roman Polanski house arrest in Switzerland to start Friday

After more than two months in a Swiss jail, Roman Polanski will be placed under house arrest at his Alpine chalet on Friday, authorities said.

The 76-year-old director must stay in the house and wear an electronic bracelet as officials decide whether to extradite him to the U.S. for having sex in 1977 with a 13-year-old girl, the authorities said.

"Polanski will be transferred on Friday to Gstaad," said Folco Galli, the Swiss Justice Ministry spokesman.

Polanski has been in Swiss custody since being arrested Sept. 26 on a U.S. warrant as he arrived in Zurich to receive a lifetime achievement award at a film festival. Authorities in Los Angeles want him returned to be sentenced after 31 years as a fugitive.

Polanski was initially accused of raping the 13-year-old girl after plying her with champagne and a Quaalude pill during a modelling shoot in 1977. He was indicted on six felony counts, including rape by use of drugs, child molestation and sodomy.

The filmmaker fled the U.S. on Feb. 1, 1978, the day he was to be formally sentenced.

Polanski claims that the U.S. judge and prosecutors acted improperly in his case.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Mix of Six

Taping
Audience members are wanted for the CBC taping of Ron James' New Year's Eve Special at the CBC Broadcast Centre, 250 Front St. W., at 7 p.m. cbc.ca/ronjames

Music
Thunderheist and Everything All the Time perform at the Mod Club, 722 College St. Doors open at 9 p.m. $15. ticketmaster.ca

Theatre
David Hare's Stuff Happens continues its run at the Royal Alexandra Theatre, 260 King St. W. mirvish.com

Talk
Margaret Wente talks about her new book and signs copies at McNally Robinson, 1090 Don Mills Rd., at 8 p..m

Launch
Literary magazine Taddle Creek launches its newest edition, including work by Paul Bellini, at El Mocambo, 464 Spadina Ave., at 8 p.m. taddlecreekmag.com

Benefit
Autorickshaw is among the groups performing at Lula Lounge, 1585 Dundas St. W., as part of Bhopal Remembered at 8:30 p.m. $15. lula.ca

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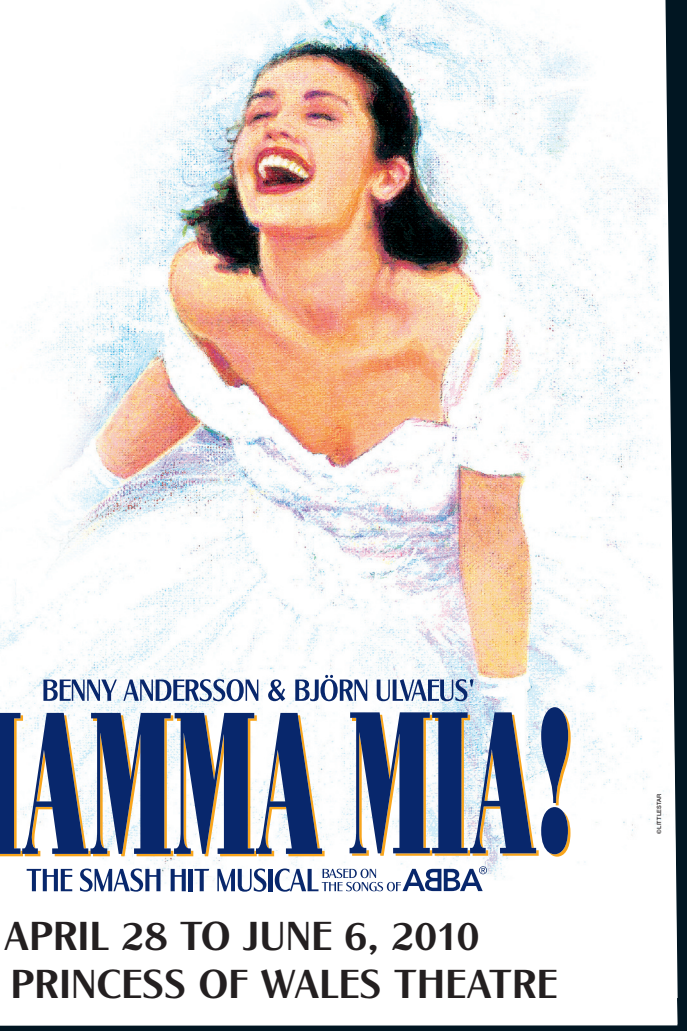

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Jacko's kids make Barbara's list

Michael Jackson's children are among Barbara Walters' most fascinating people of the year. ABC says Walters' Wednesday special, The 10 Most Fascinating People of 2009, will include a profile of Paris, Prince Michael and Prince Michael II (known as Blanket). THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Up in the Air mines the times

Clooney stars as a corporate downsizer in Reitman film

PHIL BROWN
for Metro Canada

Wise-cracking superstar George Clooney might have one of the most famous faces on the planet right now, but he certainly remembers a time when things weren't quite so good.

George Clooney in a scene from Up in the Air.

"You've got to remember that I have 12 or so years of really bad television under my belt," Clooney joked to Metro. "I saved up some really bad years and I remember them very well. There will be more of them in the coming years as well."

Up in the Air opens in theatres tomorrow

The reason the typically jovial actor is reminiscing about his not so pleasant days is because of his role in the new film Up In The Air, in which he plays a man who fires people for a living. It's a business that in the midst of an economic recession is booming.

The dark comedy/drama written and directed by Jason Reitman (of Juno and Thank You for Smoking fame) is a movie that feels very much of the moment. However, according to Clooney, the project was started just before the current economic crisis and ended up being much more culturally relevant than anyone expected.

"When I first read the script it was just before the big crash," revealed Clooney. "As we were working on the film it became less and less of a comedy and much more about real people and real things.

"Suddenly it felt more timely than ever before and we ended up in the exact right moment to be making this film. I think we were lucky to make a movie that's sort of important to talk about."

With its intelligent script and a talented cast, Up in the Air would have been a successful film at any time. But its particularly timely themes will inevitably help it connect deeply with audiences. When asked if he had been hurt by the recession yet, Clooney quipped "Yes, I fired six of my drivers. Because you know. at some point eight or nine is fine. I also put one of my planes on eBay and sold that. So yeah, I've had to downscale considerably since the crisis."

Up in the Air is the type of movie that has become a specialty for George Clooney. It's an oddball and clever little project that only made it off the ground because the actor attached his marquee name to the title.

Since achieving worldwide fame, Clooney has admirably used his status to make films that he believes in and hopes to be able to continue to do so in the future.

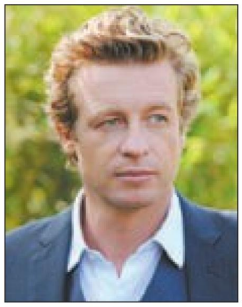
"It's hard to find the right kind of films, but I've been lucky enough to continue along this path. I try to make interesting movies within a limited budget because I don't just want to make blockbuster tentpoles. There's nothing wrong with them. They keep the studios going, but you know, there's not really a place for me if that's the only business in town. I already buried that Bat franchise once, I don't really have a lot of ways left to go."

TO	Vu	SD	C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
12/3/09	265	353	2	TVO	Magnets		The Agenda With Steve Paikin		Sunshine Bing loves gambling.		Masterworks "Boris Ryzhy"		Agenda-Paikin
primetime	211	331	3	GTV	ET Canada	Entertainment	Survivor: Samoa (N)		The Office (N)	The Office	90210 (HDTV) (N)		News Final
	215	343	4	OMN1	Two/Half Men	The Simpsons	Omni News: Italian Edition (N)		Vivere V	Omni News:	The Simpsons	King of the Hill	Metropia
	210	302	6	CBC	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Secret World of Shoplifting		The Border "Dying Art"		CBC News: The National		The Hour
	214	344	7	CITY	Law & Order: Special Victims		Community (N)	Parks/Recreat	30 Rock	30 Rock	The Jay Leno Show (N)		News
	212	313	8	CTV	The Vampire Diaries		FlashForward "A561984"		CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		The Mentalist (HDTV)		News
	218	345	11	CHCH	*Guinevere* ★★ (1999, Drama) Stephen Rea, Sarah Polley.				*Spider* ★★★ (2002, Suspense) Ralph Fiennes, Gabriel Byrne.				News at 11 (N)
	-	-	14	-	Family Guy	The Office	Omni News: S. Asian Edition		Omni News: Cantonese Edition		Two/Half Men	King	Tiger!
	213	326	15	SUN	The Insider (N)	Christopher	Mole's C'mas	Santa-C'mas	Supernatural (HDTV)		The Insider	Hitchcock Pres	Becker
	-	387	16	CBS	Inside Edition	Hollywood	Survivor: Samoa (N)		CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		The Mentalist (HDTV)		News 4 at 11
	-	385	17	NBC	The Insider (N)	Entertainment	Community (N)	Parks/Recreat	The Office (N)	30 Rock	The Jay Leno Show (N)		News
	-	386	18	ABC	Ent. Toronto	Countdwn Kick	(8:15) NFL Football Buffalo Bills vs. New York Jets. From Rogers Centre in Toronto. (Live)						
	219	346	20	ACH-B	TMZ (N)	Hollywood	Private Practice (N)		Fringe "Snakehead" (N)		Private Practice (N)		A News
	-	-	28	FOX	Judge Judy (N)	Two/Half Men	Bones (HDTV) (N)		Fringe "Snakehead" (N)		Seinfeld	Two/Half Men	The Simpsons
	-	388	61	PBS	News-Lehrer	My Hero	Straight No Chaser -- Live in New York			Sinatra at Carnegie Hall			Business Rpt.
	297	652	330	WPX	Two/Half Men	Family Guy	NFL Football Buffalo Bills vs. New York Jets. From Rogers Centre in Toronto. (Live)						News
	296	654	331	SBK	The Insider (N)	Entertainment	Law & Order: SVU		WBZ News	Frasier	The Office	Name Is Earl	Frasier
	298	653	332	TLA	The Tyra Show (N)		According-Jim	Family Guy	KTLA News	KTLA News	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Vamp. Diaries
news	502	390	26	NW	Connect Today's biggest stories. (N)				CBC News: The National		The Nature of Things		National
	500	500	33	CNN	CNN Tonight (N)		Campbell Brown (N)		Larry King Live (N)		Anderson Cooper 360 (HDTV)		
	509	504	79	CNB	Kudlow Report		Marijuana Inc.: Pot Industry		Inside the Mind of Google (N)		Inside the Mind of Google		Mad Money
sports	405	417	22	net	UFC: Access	Sportsnet Con.	NFL Football Buffalo Bills vs. New York Jets. (HDTV) From Rogers Centre in Toronto. (Live)						
	400	400	30	TSN	That's Hockey!	Salt Lake	NBA Basketball Boston Celtics at San Antonio Spurs. (HDTV) (Live)					NHL Hockey	
	411	457	58	OLN	Ghost Hunters International		Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Survivorman		Ghost Hunters International		Bounty Hunter
	417	406	81	SC	Pass Time	NASCAR Hub	Pinks -- All Out (HDTV)		Pinks Outtakes	Jacked!	Wrecked	Wrecked	Pass Time
family	551	542	25	YTV	Drake & Josh	To Be Indie	Malcolm-Mid.	Hates Chris	8 Simple Rules	What I Like	Family Biz	Prank Patrol	Adrenaline Proj
	554	544	45	TEL	Stoked	Total Drama	6TEEN	6TEEN	Futurama	King of the Hill	*300* ★★★ (2007, Action) Gerard Butler.		
	556	540	51	FAM	Sonny Chance	Zack & Cody	Overruled! (N)	Han. Montana	Wizards-Place	Latest Buzz	Ned's School	Cory in House	That's-Raven
cable variety	602	567	27	W	Friends	Friends	*He Sees You When You're Sleeping* (2002, Suspense)				*Under the Mistletoe* (2006, Drama)		
	570	580	29	MM	Secret Life of American Teen		Secret Life of American Teen		Secret Life of American Teen		Love Court	Instant Star	disBAND
	615	520	31	A&E	Criminal Minds (HDTV)		The First 48 (HDTV)		The First 48 (HDTV)		The First 48 (HDTV)		Steven Seagal
	700	800	35	TLN	Centrovetrine	Sky TG 24	La Poliziotta Fa Carriera				George Lopez	George Lopez	Lopez Tonight
	571	581	36	MMM	The Daily Fix		Ranked!		Mariah Carey: Mimi		Entourage	Wild 'n Out	mmtop10.ca
	575	583	38	CMT	Funniest Home Videos		Reba	Reba	According-Jim	According-Jim	Home Improve.	Home Improve.	Unstable
	616	521	39	SHO	The Outer Limits		Da Vinci's City Hall		Found.	Paradise Falls	Saving Grace (N)		NCIS
	620	523	40	BVO	Storytellers	PhotoXplorers	Bathroom Divas-Opera Star		Last Call at the Gladstone Hotel			PhotoXplorers	Law & Order
	601	562	41	SLC	Rich Bride, Poor Bride		X-Weighted "Rebekah"		X-Weighted "Jen"		X-Weighted "Angela J."		ET Canada
	522	506	43	HIS	Ice Road Truckers		Ancient Discoveries		Underworld Histories		Life After People		Disaster
	625	548	44	COM	Air Farce	22 Minutes	Corner Gas	Name Is Earl	The Simpsons	South Park	Hot Box	Jon Dore Show	Daily Show
	600	564	46	H&G	House Hunters	Property Virgin	Holmes Inspection		Renovation	Disaster DIY	House Hunters	House Hunters	Holmes
	294	529	47	TBS	Family Guy	Family Guy	SEC Championship Preview		Law & Order: SVU		House-Payne	House-Payne	The Office
	576	582	49	BET	106 & Park	Movie Special	*Hoodlum* ★★ (1997, Crime Drama) Laurence Fishburne.				The Game	The Game	Mo'Nique
	627	528	50	SPC	Stargate Atlantis (DVS)		Star Trek: Voyager		Primeval		Eureka (N)		InnerSpace (N)
	581	566	52	MTV	Real World-Road Rules		True Life		True Life		Jersey Shore (Series Premiere) (N)		
	618	524	54	TROP	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	The Outer Limits		ET Canada	TV Made, Do It	Family Guy	Seinfeld	Seinfeld
	603	561	56	FOOD	Ricardo	Road Grill	Restaurant Makeover		Heston's Feasts (N)		Ace of Cakes	Ace of Cakes	Family
	261	394	60	V	Murder, She Wrote		On the Buses	'Allo, 'Allo!	*Philadelphia* ★★★ (1993, Drama) Tom Hanks, Denzel Washington.				
	621	527	63	STR	Look-A-Like	TMZ	The Ellen DeGeneres Show (N)		The View (HDTV) (N)		The Dr. Oz Show (N)		TMZ
	553	546	65	TRE	Franklin	Nght Grdn	Waybuloo	Franklin	Little Bear	Maggie-Beast	Babar	Zigby	Max & Ruby
	526	507	249	VIVA	Cold Case		Missing "Paper Anniversary"		The Closer		Cold Case		Psychic Inv.
	300	601	301	M1	*Sharkwater*	*Toronto Stories* (2008, Drama)			*Powder Blue* (2009, Drama) Jessica Biel, Ray Liotta.				*Dead at 17*
	305	612	306	PIX	(7:15) *Bend of the River* ★★★ (1952, Western)				*Bad Boys* ★★★ (1995, Action) Martin Lawrence.				*October Sky*
	520	-	-	DISC	Daily Planet (N)		Life (N)		Life "Creatures of the Deep"		MythBusters		Daily Planet
	637	-	-	TVLND	Red Green	Red Green	Fantasy Island		Hart to Hart (Part 1 of 2)		Andy Griffith	Phil Silvers	Bizarre
	605	-	-	FASH	Britain's Next Top Model		FashionTele	RAW	Canada's Next Top Model		Britain's Next Top Model		Australia's

critics'corner

The Mentalist

As Lisbon (Robin Tunney) and the team investigate the murder of a state senator's intern, Jane (Simon Baker) concentrates on finding out what new information has been uncovered on the Red John case. Tim Kang, Owain Yeoman, Terry Kinney and Amanda Righetti also star in "The Scarlet Letter"; Gregory Itzin ("24") and George Wyner guest star. 10 PM on CTV CBS



The Secret World of Shoplifting

It's not just teenagers slipping lipsticks into their purses. This new documentary reveals that consumer demand for low prices has helped turn shoplifting into big business and for some, a career. Even organized crime is getting involved. People on both sides of the law — including reformed thieves who now counsel shoplifters and consult with police — explain the problem and what's being done to fight it. 8 PM on CBC

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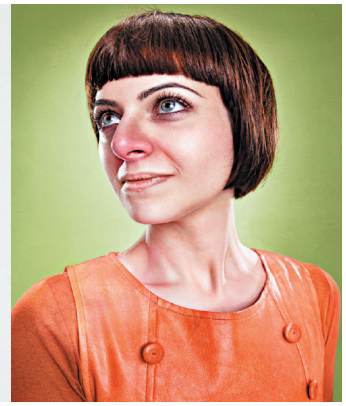

A recipe for all seasons

In her newly released cookbook, Fresh with Anna Olson, the TV show host shares locally inspired recipes divided into seasons. With stunning colour images, photographed by Ryan Szule, the 191-recipe collection is published by Whitecap ($29.95). THE CANADIAN PRESS

Urban Foodie

●●●●● INSPIRED; ●●●● VERY GOOD; ●●● PALATABLE; ●● HO-HUM; ● NEVER AGAIN

Cozy, casual joint with comfort food

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Rating: ●●●½
Dinner & drinks for 2: $55

Now that it's getting colder, it's time for a little comfort food. And there's no better place than a cozy neighbourhood joint.

Pop Bistro is a former 24-hour restaurant/diner. The stainless steel pass-through, stools, counter and pie fridge still remain.

It's small — under 30 seats — and simply decorated, and the atmosphere is laid-back and casual. The two owners — server and chef — are the only staff here tonight, Wed at 7 p.m., which adds to the easygoing feel of the place.

And though it touts itself as a French bistro, the menu is decidedly a medley of European dishes.

On the web

• Get recipes and more great food content at metronews.ca/recipes

Everything on the menu is prepared and presented simply.

The Warm Spinach and Bacon Salad ($10) is tossed in a barely-there dressing, and the Escargots Provencal ($10) drift in melted butter.

A dense blend of pork and beef under a mantle of thick tomato sauce make up Homemade Meatloaf ($12), and the Pork Cutlets with Dijon Cream Sauce ($12) are thin, delicate and just right.

The items are deceivingly plain looking, but the flavours more than make up for the simplistic dishes.

It's nice to get away from fussy and fancy fare and just eat good food in a nice place for once.

STEPHANIE DICKISON/FOR METRO TORONTO

Pork cutlets wth Dijon Cream Sauce ($12).

Global Peasant blog online

• Travel along with Diane Thompson's culinary adventures in her Global Peasant blog.

• Check out metronews.ca/globalpeasant for a recipe of butternut squash and apple soup.

Dining out

BAR FOOD
Disgraceland (965 Bloor St. WW.) isn't a high end bar in the least. It's where you go to get your drink on, to hang with friends. But they also serve brunch on Saturdays and Sundays and have an inventive selection of hot dogs and fries including vegan poutine and Chip Butty's — french fry sandwiches.

SHAKIRA SHAKE
Are you looking for something a little more than just dinner? Then go to Tabülè Middle Eastern Cuisine for an exhilarating Belly Dancing Show! The shows are half an hour — Fridays starting at 8:30 p.m. and Saturdays at 9 p.m. Reserve your table online at tabule.ca or call (416) 483-3747

In brief

SWEET ESCAPE On Dec. 13, the Royal Ontario Museum presents Canadian Sweet Treats: Food Experts Debate the Classics. Buy tickets online at rom.on.ca.

MAKING WINE This holiday season save yourself some cash by making your own wine from real grapes at Fermentations! Go to fermentations.ca for more info.

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Phoenix $229
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Cancun	Travel Dec 6 - Dec 13/5g	$99 + taxes & fees $272
Punta Cana	Travel Dec 6 - Dec 13/ts/5g	$118 + taxes & fees $320
Jamaica	Travel Dec 5 - Dec 12/5g	$128 + taxes & fees $268
Varadero	Travel Dec 5 - Dec 12/5g	$148 + taxes & fees $205
London	Travel Jan 17 - Jan 29/ts	$149 + taxes & fees $395
Turks & Caicos New Years Eve	Travel Dec 31 - Jan 7/ac	$176 + taxes & fees $230
Miami	Travel Jan 20 - Jan 27/nw	$199 + taxes & fees $119
St Lucia	Travel Jan 10 - Jan 17/ts	$279 + taxes & fees $233
Costa Rica	Travel Jan 28 - Feb 4/ts	$299 + taxes & fees $209
Antigua	Travel Jan 10 - Jan 17/c6	$399 + taxes & fees $220
Rome	Travel Jan 25- Feb 2/ua	$399 + taxes & fees $386

US A Vacations

Orlando
Family Special, Air + 5 Nights
$99◊
Champions World Resort + taxes & fees $229
Departs Dec 13/ggv/ts.

Las Vegas Air + 3 Nights $239
Circus Circus + taxes & fees $223
INCLUDES accom on the strip. Departs Dec 14/ggv/wg. UPGRADE to 4-star accom at Luxor for $12 per night.

Mrytle Beach Air + 3 Nights $599
Kingston Planatation + taxes & fees $113
Departs Jan 14/ggv/us. ADD 3-day car rental for $49 per day.

Cruise Vacations

Bahamas 3-Night Cruise $178
Norwegian Sky + taxes & fees $88
CRUISE roundtrip Miami and Nassau & Great Stirrup Cay. Sails Jan 15/ncl.

Western Caribbean 7-Night Cruise $390
Norwegian Jewel + taxes & fees $128
CRUISE roundtrip Miami and visit Roatan, Belize, Costa Maya and Great Stirrup Cay. Sails Jan 17/ncl.

Hawaiian Islands 7-Night Cruise $670
Pride of America + taxes & fees $90
CRUISE roundtrip Honolulu and visit Maui (overnight), Big Island (Hilo & Kona) and Kauai (overnight). Sails Jan 2/ncl.

Vacations

Malaysia
Air + 6 Nights
$1399
Royal Bintang Kuala Lumpur & Hydro Majestic Hotel Penang + taxes & fees $250
INCLUDES all air, 2 nights in Kuala Lumpur and 4 nights in Penang. Travel Jan 26 - Feb 3/ggv/ac.

Paris Air + First 2 Nights $699
Hotel Concorde Montparnasse + taxes & fees $407
BONUS daily breakfast included. Travel Feb 1 - 9/ggv/ua. ADD 3-day consecutive France Rail pass for $268.

Egypt Air + 6 Nights + Activities $1359
Oasis Cairo & Nile Palace + taxes & fees $394
INCLUDES 3 nights in Cairo, 3 nights in Luxor, daily breakfast, Pyramid & Sphinx tour and half-day tour of the East Bank. Travel Jan 26 - Feb 1/ggv/os.

Singapore + Sentosa Island
Air + 7 Nights $1599
Miramar Hotel & Sentosa Island Resort + taxes & fees $419
INCLUDES 2 nights 4-star in Singapore and 5 nights 5-star on Sentosa Island. Travel Feb 1 - Feb 8/ggv/ua.
ADD Night Safari with Dinner Tour for $79.

New Zealand Auckland & Bay of Islands
Air + 7 Nights $1999
The Quadrant & Scenic Bay Island Hotel + taxes & fees $341
INCLUDES 4 nights in Auckland and 3 nights in Paihia, Bay of Islands. Departs Feb 8/ggv/nz.
ADD Auckland Bridge Climb for $107.

All-inclusive Vacations

Varadero
7 Nights 4-Star
$378
Oasis Varadero 1920 + taxes & fees $205
Departs Dec 5/sgn/5g.

Cancun 5 Nights 4-Star $375
Oasis Cancun + taxes & fees $277
Departs Dec 9/swg/wg.

Jamaica 7 Nights 4-Star $437
Holiday Inn Sunspree + taxes & fees $269
Departs Dec 6/nol/5g.

Punta Cana 7 Nights 4-Star $437
Blau Natura Park + taxes & fees $322
Departs Dec 6/sqv/5g.

Costa Rica 5 Nights 4-Star $487
Barcelo Playa Langosta + taxes & fees $203
Departs Dec 14/sqv/5g.

Los Cabos 7 Nights 5-Star $497
RIU Santa Fe + taxes & fees $272
Departs Dec 10/sqv/5g.

Punta Cana Christmas
5 Nights 4-Star $835
Blau Natura Park + taxes & fees $320
Departs Dec 21/swg/wg.

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You don't Say! Lisa Loeb welcomes baby girl
It's a baby girl for singer Lisa Loeb and her husband Roey Hershkovitz, her rep tells People. Lyla Rose Loeb Hershkovitz arrived Sunday morning, Nov. 29 at Cedars Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles and is the first child for the couple. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Celebrity Buzz

Family Ties mom Baxter comes out

WELCOME HOME Most people know Meredith Baxter as Elyse Keaton, everyone's favorite mom from the hit '80s sitcom Family Ties. But now the actress reveals to People that she's ready for the world to see her in a different — and surprising — way: "I'm a lesbian mom," she says.

Before Baxter, 62, first started dating women seven years ago, the thought of being gay "had never crossed my mind," people.com quotes her as saying. Having been in three failed marriages to men (most famously to actor David Birney), she says of her many difficult years before coming out, "I was never comfortable with myself." But she's quick to add, "That doesn't mean I was questioning."

People reports she is now in a four-year relationship with building contractor Nancy Locke — the couple have lived together for two years — the actress, who continues to act and run a skincare company, says, "I feel like I'm being honest for the first time."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Motherhood on Portman's 'radar'

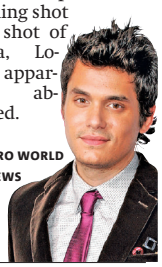
APPLICANTS CAN FORM A LINE HERE It looks like motherhood may be on Natalie Portman's radar. The actress admits that it's something she's been thinking about, according to Hollyscoop. "I feel like I'm coming into my womanhood, and I'm less afraid or maybe I'm just getting old," she says. "I think about having kids, but I think you can't plan for that sort of thing. It's not like you can work at it."

METRO WORLD NEWS

Are Mayer and Lohan new drinking buddies?

JUST HIS LUCK John Mayer has a new bar-hopping pal, apparently. The singer was spotted hanging out at New York nightclub Butter recently with Lindsay Lohan, according to E! News. But sources say Lohan seemed much more interested in hanging out with Mayer than vice-versa.

"She would follow his every move," a sources says. "He would dance with the waitresses and then come back. She was way into it." And while Mayer was spotted downing shot after shot of vodka, Lohan apparently abstained.



METRO WORLD NEWS

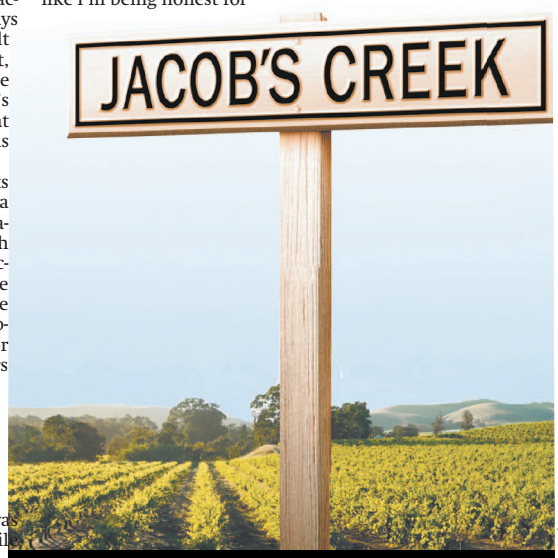
Aniston: yoga changed my life for the better

ANYTHING FOR HER *FRIENDS* Jennifer Aniston says yoga changed her life, femalefirst.co.uk reports. The former Friends star appears in the introduction to Yogalosophy, a new workout DVD fronted by her friend and yoga instructor Mandy Ingber, and says she was amazed at the impact learning the discipline had on her.

In the short clip, she says: "She brought yoga into my life. It completely changed my life.

"It's one of the most fun workouts I've ever had. So have fun and work hard because it will totally pay off."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



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Celebrity tweets

Imogen Heap is out picking up friends, Tom Felton is easily amused, Lance Armstrong is afraid of a little snow, and Paris Hilton has more Paranormal Activity in her social life, perhaps?

@imogenheap
Driving about Washington DC in a stretch limo. Where should we go? If you come up with a good idea we'll pick you up. Room for 4 people

@TomFelton
Always make me smile seeing a road sign with another sign covering it saying "sign not in use" Good use of our road tax!

@lancearmstrong
Weather forecast is calling for snow flurries in Austin on Friday. That ain't funny.

@ParisHilton
Just turned the movie off, so boring and so not scary. Looking to see what else to watch.

METRO WORLD NEWS

Eva Longoria 'delighted' with body

TOO BAD NOBODY WATCHES HER SHOW Eva Longoria goes to the gym four times a week in a bid to maintain her stunning figure, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The Desperate Housewives actress — who was forced to laugh off rumours she was pregnant last year when she but on weight — knows regular exercise is the perfect way to keep off any unwanted pounds.

A source said: "Eva hits the gym four times a week for an hour each time, and it's certainly paying off. She's got a tiny frame and any weight gain shows, but right now she's looking great ... She's delighted with her figure."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Simpson dad complains whole world 'wants his family to fail'

WELL JOE, IT'S JUST THAT YOU'RE ALL SO GOOD AT IT Jessica Simpson's father claims the world wants his family to fail, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

Joe Simpson, a former reverend — who manages both his famous daughters, Jessica Simpson and Ashlee Simpson-Wentz — says people don't want to see them doing well and get joy when things go wrong.

He fumed to Us Weekly magazine: "We as a family are under a lot pressure. People want to make us look bad and want us to fail."

Simpson claims the family wasn't concerned when Ashlee was dropped from US TV drama Melrose Place after just six months. He said: "It was never a loss. The world says whatever it says. The world, again, always wants to make it look like we're failures but we're really just a family that works hard."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

The Weather Network
TWN incorporates MSC data

Today Cloudy 9°/ -2°
Friday Variable 2° / -5°
Saturday Partly cloudy 1°/ -6°

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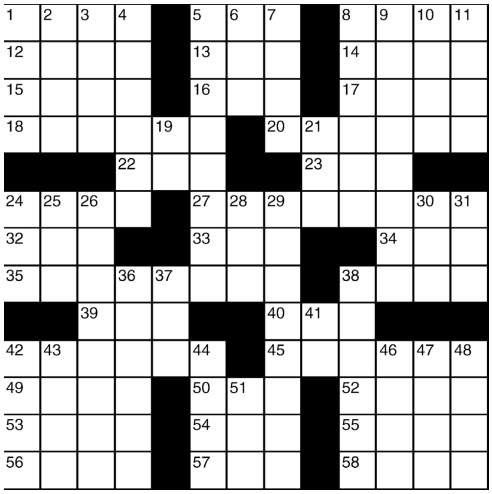
Take Five

For more delicious Metro recipes, visit: **metronews.ca/food**



ACROSS

1Truckload
5 Bill
8 Bat a gnat
12 Celestial bear
13 In olden times
14 Apiece
15 Clarinet insert
16 Sleep phenom
17 Ersatz swing
18 Lasso
20 Piece of lumber used for flooring (Brit.)
22 Ostrich's cousin
23 Apiece
24 "Desire Under the —"
27 Stronghold
32 — constrictor
33 Dillinger's foes (Abbr.)
34 Old French coin
35 Strengthen
38 Capri, for one
39 Former M&M's color
40 Discoverer's call
42 Back-related
45 Less of a mess
49 Help a hood
50 Chic no more
52 Notion
53 Got up
54 To and —
55 Coach Chuck, who won four Super Bowls
56 "Untouchables" role
57 "— the season ..."
58 Otherwise

DOWN

1 Throw hard
2 Vicinity
3 Person at a PC
4 Half the audience?
5 Molière protagonist
6 Census statistic
7 Broadway flop
8 Large bird dog
9 Diner staffer
10 Farm fraction
11 As a result
19 Exist
21 Suitable
24 Recede
25 Brock of baseball
26 Place to settle?
28 Old, like a wd.
29 Rice dishes
30 Scale member
31 Seek damages
36 Preferences
37 Genetics abbr.
38 Common antiseptic
41 Greeting
42 "Nuts!"
43 Bassoon kin
44 Barn section
46 "American —"
47 Congers, e.g.
48 Rough breathing sound
51 Spoon-bender Geller

Sudoku

For more/less challenging Sudoku puzzles, visit metronews.ca

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

	9	7	2		3	4	6	
6	3						5	7
		8	3		4	7		
	1			2			9	
		5	6		9	1		
5	4						1	2
	7	2	5		8	9	4	

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:

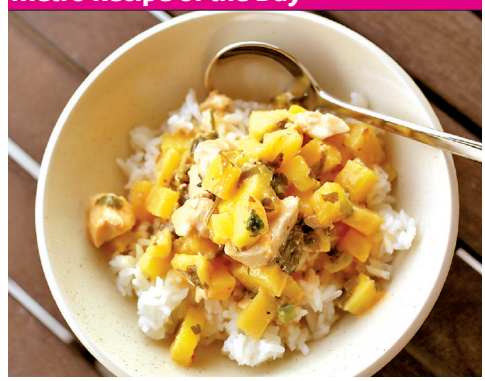
S	P	U	D	■	P	I	P	■	S	P	O	T		
A	O	N	E	■	A	L	A	■	T	A	R	O		
P	O	T	B	E	L	L	Y	■	A	N	E	W		
S	H	O	A	T	■	■	S	L	I	P	O	N		
■	■	■	S	A	L	T	■	A	N	I	■	■		
R	O	P	E	■	E	W	E	S	■	P	A	T		
A	D	O	■	A	V	A	S	T	■	E	A	R		
D	D	T	■	N	I	N	A	■	A	S	H	Y		
■	■	R	I	O	■	G	U	L	P	■	■	■		
T	H	O	R	N	S	■	■	S	P	O	I	L		
S	O	A	K	■	P	A	N	D	O	W	D	Y		
A	P	S	E	■	A	G	O	■	S	E	E	R		
R	E	T	D	■	R	E	D	■	E	S	S	E		

1	2	6	7	3	9	4	5	8
5	8	7	2	1	4	3	6	9
3	4	9	6	5	8	2	7	1
6	9	3	4	2	7	8	1	5
4	5	8	9	6	1	7	3	2
7	1	2	3	8	5	9	4	6
8	3	1	5	7	2	6	9	4
2	7	4	1	9	6	5	8	3
9	6	5	8	4	3	1	2	7

On the web

For more games and 60 additional daily cartoon strips, visit metronews.ca

Metro Recipe of the Day



Chicken Coconut Pineapple Curry

Submitted by Alison Glasbergen, Victoria, BC

INGREDIENTS:

1 Tablespoon vegetable oil
2 boneless skinless chicken breasts, cut into small chunks
1 inch piece of ginger, grated (a rasp grater works really well)
1 Can of coconut milk (shake can before opening - coconut milk settles over time)
2 Tablespoon thai red curry paste (thai red curry is quite mild, so use a bit more if you like things spicy)
2 green onions, chopped
1 1/2 Cup of fresh pineapple, cut into bite-size chunks
1/2 Cup cilantro, finely chopped
salt and pepper to taste
1 1/2 Cup jasmine rice, cooked according to package directions

METHOD:

1. Heat oil in large frying pan over medium/low heat and add chicken, stirring often.
2. Season lightly with salt and pepper.
3. When chicken is no longer pink, reduce heat to low and add grated ginger and continue to cook for 1 minute.
4. Add coconut milk and red curry paste, and stir until curry paste is dissolved.
5. Increase heat to medium and gently simmer for 2 minutes, but do not let it come to the boil.
6. Add green onions, pineapple chunks and stir to combine.
7. Garnish with chopped cilantro and serve over a bowl of Jasmine rice.

SERVES 4
PREP TIME: 8 MINUTES
COOK TIME: 10 MINUTES

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Horoscopes by Sally Brompton sallybrompton.com

For Sally's expanded daily and weekend horoscopes, visit metronews.ca

ARIES ♈
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
With the Sun moving through one of the best areas of your chart at the moment you can't fail to get your way. Enjoy your luck, but don't push it.

TAURUS ♉
APRIL 21-MAY 21
A positive outlook is a must today. Not that anything bad will happen but when small things go wrong you may think it's the end of the world. It's not.

GEMINI ♊
MAY 22-JUNE 21
A project which has been in a state of limbo for some time can now start moving forwards again. No more excuses: get to it!

CANCER ♋
JUNE 22-JULY 22
If you do something to excess today you will regret it over the weekend. In a nutshell: don't work too hard and don't risk your health.

LEO ♌
JULY 23-AUG 23
The Sun's transit of the most dynamic sector of your chart means you have no doubts and no fears – just like most times really, only more so by far.

VIRGO ♍
AUG 24-SEPT 22
Keep your options open today, especially at work as this is where you are most likely to be let down by other people. Stay cool, calm and in control.

LIBRA ♎
SEPT 23-OCT 23
You need to rise above petty distractions and see the bigger picture. Your future is bright, no matter how dark it seems now.

SCORPIO ♏
OCT 24-NOV 22
Today's events will urge you to raise your game and take more risks. It's not irresponsible to change if you've sick of doing the same old things

SAGITTARIUS ♐
NOV 23-DEC 21
Not only did yesterday's full moon make you emotional but it also made you realize that honesty is essential at all times.

CAPRICORN ♑
DEC 22-JAN 20
The Sun in Sagittarius at this time of year has a negative effect on your confidence but a lot of it is in the mind.

AQUARIUS ♒
JAN 21-FEB 18
You will have to fight for your rights against the odds today, but actually those odds are not nearly so bad as you appear to believe.

PISCES ♓
FEB 19-MARCH 20
The more someone says you can trust them the more precautions you need to take. Don't let that happen.

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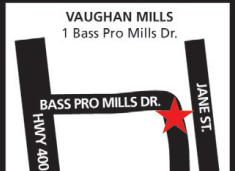

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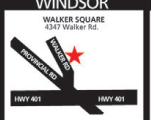

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OR

ANNOUNCING A NEW LOWER PRICE

$17,999* with **0%** purchase financing for 36 mos.◊

• ABS with Electronic Brake Force Distribution (EBD) • 6 airbags • Keyless entry w/ alarm • Heated front seats • Power windows & door locks • USB port/iPod® Aux. plug • XM Satellite Radio▼ • A/C

GL Sport model shown

2010 ACCENT L 3DR

0% purchase financing for 60 mos.◊

OR LEASE FROM **$178**** at **0%** Annual Lease Rate for 60 mos. **WITH $0 DOWN PAYMENT** Delivery and Destination Incl.

• Dual front airbags • Multi-adjustable driver's seat • AM/FM/CD/MP3 stereo
• 60/40 split fold-down rear seat • Rear adjustable head restraints

Limited model shown

2009 ELANTRA L

LEASE FROM **$192**** at **3.75%** Annual Lease Rate for 60 mos. **WITH $0 DOWN PAYMENT** Delivery and Destination Incl.

OR

FROM **$11,995*** with **0%** purchase financing for 36 mos.◊

• Dual front airbags • AM/FM/CD/MP3 stereo • Power front windows
• Power door locks • 60/40 split fold-down rear seat

THE NEW
2010 SANTA FE GL 2.4L

LEASE FROM **$376**** at **4.5%** Annual Lease Rate for 60 mos. **WITH $0 DOWN PAYMENT** Delivery and Destination Incl.

OR

STARTING FROM **$25,999*** with **0%** purchase financing for 48 mos.◊

Limited model shown

ALL-NEW FEATURES FOR 2010

• New 2.4L I4 engine • Available 275 HP V6 • A distinctive new style
• 6-speed automatic transmission • Standard 17" alloy wheels
• Standard Bluetooth® hands-free mobile phone interface

PLUS

• Electronic Stability Control & Traction Control System • ABS with Electronic Brake Force Distribution (EBD)
• A/C • 6 airbags • AM/FM/XM/CD/MP3 6-speaker audio system

VISIT **HYUNDAICANADA.COM** FOR MORE INFORMATION

HYUNDAI CLEAN AIR COMMITMENT

PLUS GET UP TO **$1,000*** IN ADDITIONAL SAVINGS
WHEN YOU TURN IN YOUR 1995 MODEL YEAR OR OLDER VEHICLE.

GET A GREAT DEAL ON OUR REMAINING '09s BEFORE THEY'RE ALL GONE.

5 YEAR
100,000 KM
WARRANTY
COMPREHENSIVE LIMITED WARRANTY▼

HYUNDAI™

GRADUATE REBATE PROGRAM

*The Hyundai names, logos, product names, feature names, images and slogans are trade marks owned by Hyundai Auto Canada Corp., and used under licence. ◆Prices for models shown: 2010 Sonata V6 Limited is $29,499/2010 Accent 3 DR GL Sport 5-speed is $16,999/2009 Elantra Limited is $20,295/2010 Santa Fe Limited is $33,799. Delivery and Destination charges of $1,565 for 2010 Sonata/$1,495 for 2010 Accent/$1,495 for 2009 Elantra/$1,760 for 2010 Santa Fe, registration, insurance, license fees and all applicable taxes are excluded. Delivery and destination charge includes freight, P.D.E., dealer admin fees and a full tank of gas. ◊Purchase financing available O.A.C. from Hyundai Financial Services on 2010 Sonata/2010 Accent 3Dr/2009 Elantra/2010 Santa Fe models with a finance rate of 0%/0%/0%/0% for 36/60/36/48 month terms. Financing example: 2009 Elantra L Fe GL 2.4L 6-speed with an annual lease rate of 6.61%/0%/2.75%/4.5%. Monthly payment is $309/$179/$192/$376 per month for a 60/60/60/60 month walk-away lease. Down Payment of $0/$0/$0/$0 and first monthly payment required. Total lease obligation is $18,540/$10,680/$11,520/$22,560. Lease offer includes: Delivery and Destination of $1,495/$1,495/$1,565/$1,760. Applicable license fees, insurance, registration, PPSA ($40), and taxes are excluded. $0 security deposit on all models. 20,000 km allowance per year applies. Additional charge of $0.10/km. Delivery and Destination charge includes freight, P.D.E., dealer admin fees and a full tank of gas. ◆◆Offers available for a limited time and subject to change or cancellation without notice. See dealer for complete details. Dealer may sell for less. Inventory is limited, dealer order may be required. ▼The XM name and logos are registered trademarks of XM Satellite Radio Inc. iPod® is a registered trademark of Apple Inc. Bluetooth® word mark and logos are registered trademarks owned by Bluetooth SIG, Inc., and any use of such marks by Hyundai is under license. ‡You may qualify for an additional incentive if you turn in your 1995 model year and older vehicle and participate in the national Retire Your Ride program, funded by the Government of Canada. To qualify, your vehicle must be 1995 model year or older, in running condition and fully registered and insured in the participant's province for the last 6 consecutive months. Upon confirmation of eligibility for the Retire Your Ride program, Hyundai Auto Canada will provide additional Clean Air Cash that must be applied to the purchase of a new Hyundai vehicle in the amount of $500 - 2009 Accent / $500 - 2009 Elantra sedan / $500 - 2009 Elantra Touring / $500 - 2009 Sonata / $1,000 - 2010 Sonata / $1,000 - 2010 Santa Fe. Applicable taxes are excluded. Limit one Clean Air Cash incentive per eligible vehicle. Offer subject to change or cancellation without notice. See dealer for complete details. Dealer may sell for less. Some conditions apply, see dealer for details. ▲See your dealer for eligible vehicles and full details of the Graduate Rebate Program. ††Hyundai's Comprehensive Limited Warranty coverage covers most vehicle components against defects in workmanship under normal use and maintenance conditions. Some conditions apply, see dealer for details. Trade-in value for your old vehicle. For more information about the Retire Your Ride Program visit www.retireyourride.ca. Some conditions apply, see dealer for details.